Autauga Farmers Mob ASC Office To Get Allotments

Advertiser Tues. 2-5-57
Montgomery Ala.

PRATTVILLE, Ala., Feb. 4 (Special)—Autauga County farmers began arriving in front of the ASC office door the night before to sign up for soil bank allotments.

This was the result of the announced "first come, first served" basis in which payments would be made. Since an expected $95,000 allotment was to be provided for the 1,000 Autauga farms now raising cotton and since 90 per cent of the farmers were expected to sign up, the line began forming Sunday night for the opening this morning.

First to arrive was R. D. Wilkins, 65, Indian Grave, who began his long wait at 6:15 p.m. He was soon followed by 75-year-old D. H. Missildine of New Cedron community. Soon they were joined by others for the long night.

However the night was pleasant and the men didn't seem to mind. They gathered in a huddle to discuss such important matters as coon hunts and selling cows. One or two tried dragging out their blankets and pillows but soon rejoined the group.

Since the early birds didn't relish having to stand in line some 14 hours they soon figured out a system. Al Shanks, Autaugaville, had to go home to change his Sunday clothes anyway so he brought back several sheets of his children's notebook paper. The lines on these were carefully numbered and taped to the office window. Thereafter newcomers were invited to sign up as they arrived and were then free to roam at will.

A couple of high school boys, Alvin Rainwater and Buddy Middlebrooks of Evergreen and Autaugaville communities arrived around 2 a.m. to obtain an early place in line for their mothers who promised to be there by the time the office opened.

About 6 a.m. W. C. Shearon, county office manager, and one of his clerks, Mrs. Willodean Wise were ready to make a final check on the preparations for the day. A rear entrance kept them from being mobbed by the crowd that had now begun to gather.

By 8 a.m. opening time, 135 had signed the unofficial registration papers and received numbers.

With three extra clerks on hand Shearon reports that they hope to process as many as 75 a day. Each must fill out an application, point out on a map of his farm the field he plans to place in the reserve, wait for the application to be typed and then sign it.

Farm Depression Coming, Todd Say

Post-Herald
Birmingham Ala.

Warns Heavier Fall Expenses Will Hurt

Tues. 3-26-57

MONTGOMERY, March 25 (AP)—With a warning of farm depression ahead, Agriculture Commissioner A. W. Todd urged cotton warehousemen today to join the fight for more cotton acreage in Alabama.

Alabama farmers are already caught in a squeeze between the soil bank plan and decreased cotton allotments, Todd told the Alabama Bonded Warehousemen's Assn. and thousands are already drawing relief checks.

But the Autumn months—September through November—will bring a full scale depression unless something is done, he added, because farmers will be facing heavier expenses.

Todd said the Eisenhower Administration, through its foreign aid program, is paying the Egyptian farmer $200 to $400 to compete with cotton growers in the United States.

By contrast, he continued, Alabama farmers received only $50 an acre to rent their land to the government under the soil bank to stop growing cotton.

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Auburn Gets Blighted Area Loan, Grant

Constitution
Atlanta Ga.
Wed. 3-13-57

WASHINGTON, March 12 (AP)—A $55,755 loan and a $27,255 grant to Auburn, Ala., were announced today by the urban renewal administration.

The money will be used to help transform an eight-acre blighted area, known as "Hare Project," into a 72-unit residential area.

The area involved is predominantly residental and is located two blocks from the city's central business district and Alabama Polytechnic Institute. It contains 69 substandard dwelling units.

In collaboration with the institute and the Auburn City Commission, the Auburn Housing Authority will buy the land, tear down the buildings, and then prepare the land for resale to private developers.

Net cost of the project is estimated at $35,633. This represents the difference between the cost of acquiring and preparing the land and the return from resale of the improved land. The federal grant of $27,255 covers two thirds of the deficit and includes $3,500 for relocating displaced families. The city's one-third share will be $11,878.

Farm Migration Causing Alarm, Official Says

Charlotte N.C.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Nov. 25 (AP)—A continuing migration of people from Southern farms is creating serious social and economic problems, a U.S. Labor Department official said today.

In an address to the 15th annual Tuskegee Institute Professional Agriculture Workers Conference, Joseph S. Zeisel, chief of the employment analysis section of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, observed:

"There is some cause for alarm in the rapid decline of the South's farm population. From 1933 through 1956, the South has lost more than one million a year in its rural population."

Zeisel said the greatest movement from the farms has been among those of the most productive age, particularly among the Negroes.

"The unemployed move more frequently than the employed," he said. "The Negro population moves more than the non-Negro population."

"Because the South has lagged industrially," he added, "people have sought employment with higher wages in other sections of the nation. This out-migration has caused a great economic and social loss because a heavy investment has been made in training of these people."

THIS WOODWORKING SHOP on a farm near Sardis, Ala, brings in close to $5,000 a year as sideline income. John Moss, 27, center, and his father, Thomas Moss, Sr, left, are shown finishing a limed ash television table for a customer in Montgomery. Looking on is State Extension Leader W Bill. An activity such as this is an asset to the Rural Development program which is seeking to encourage the establishment of more nonfarm enterprises --- USDA Photo

Farmers Lose In Ruling On Acreage Suits

Post-Herald
Mon. 5-6-57
Birmingham, Ala.

Colbert Countians Claim Reductions Exceed Average

P. 22

Four Colbert County farmers have lost a skirmish in their fight for increased upland cotton acreage allotments.

U. S. District Judge H. H. Grooms overruled motions filed by the farmers asking that the four separate suits be sent back to the Circuit Court of Colbert County.

The matter will remain here in the federal court.

Richard Gordon Preuit, Edward F. Mauldin, Percy H. Alexander and Henry Stanley filed their complaints against the Review Committee of the Commodity Stabilization Service of the Department of Agriculture.

The committee is composed of Elmer S. Sockwell of Colbert County, C. H. Wilhite of Sullman and J. M. Doss of Franklin.

It was originally field in Colbert County but removed to U. S. District Court on motion of the U. S. Attorney.

All four farmers claimed in their separate suits that their farms suffered reductions in cotton acreage far in excess of the average reduction in the county, state or nation.

This has caused a hardship, they said, on farm owners, tenants and laborers alike.

The original compalint had asked an early hearing, saying that the cotton planting season is the late March and early April, and delay would mean corrective measures would come too late.

The farmers asked the court to stay the allotments of the review committee and allow them to plant enough acres to correct the "inequities" of the present allotments.

FROM FOOD CANNING TO COLLEGE—Miss Maude Stanford (r), 19-year-old 4-H'er of Route 2, Abbeville, Ala., shows her home agent, Miss Sadie Kynard (Henry County home demonstration agent), canned goods which she helped her (Miss Stanford's) mother save this year. Miss Stanford is presently enrolled as a freshman at Tuskegee Institute.

Woodland Major Source Of Income For Farmers Of Macon County

BY MILTON A. DOUGLAS
and REX McLENDON

Woodland is one of our leading farm incomes in Macon County. It is being harvested throughout the year for pulpwood, cross-ties, poles and lumber. More interest should be taken to maintain a good stand of merchantable timber at all times.

Trees, like cotton or corn, must first be a good stand before the highest yield can be harvested. Second, the trees should be spaced properly to receive maximum growth. Third, like weeds in cotton and corn, undesirable trees must be removed to keep down competition with the desirable trees.

No land is fully protected from erosion unless it has the proper cover on the land whether it be grass or trees. Before a farm will net the highest return it is capable of, each acre must be planted to the crop it is best able to grow. Therefore, if there is anything less than a stand of trees on the woodland area, the land isn't fully protected from erosion nor is it netting the greatest return.

Timber should be thinned when trees are beginning to compete with each other for space. You can tell when this is happening by boring into the trees with a forestry increment bore. It will show the growth rings which will indicate if the trees have slowed down in growth. A simple way to space trees is to take the average diameter of the trees and add six feet to the diameter and change to feet. This will give the trees the needed space to grow on the average soils in this county for the next six or seven years.

Before unmerchantable timber is removed from the woodland there should be a stand of young merchantable timber on the land. The young trees may be set out or may occur from natural reseeding. The reason for not deadening or removing the undesirable trees first is to give the young pines a chance to get ahead of the sprouts that usually occurs from the roots and stumps of deaden hardwood.

Soil Conservation Service technicians will assist you in preparing a plan on your farm. This plan will include all practices needed on your farm to give your land proper protection from erosion. This includes grasses and legumes for pasture, engineering practices such as drainage ditches, etc., and a woodland management plan including cutting cycle, fire protection and woodland improvement.

HOGS THE ANSWER TO INCOME

Many Houston County farm families are finding hogs the answer to the question of where they can find more income. At left, Foy Callens, Dothan, Rt. 2, looks over some of his hogs with T. J. Dumas, Houston County Farm Agent. Right, with Mrs. Callens and Home Agent Miss Mildred Ward. Callens shows the agents sale receipts for several hundred dollars worth of hogs sold during late summer. Hogs are helping the family keep well ahead with land payments.

Russell Has Diversified Farm Income

Advertiser Wed. 1-2-57 Montgomery, Ala. P. 3-A

PHENIX CITY, Ala., Jan. 1—No single agricultural product accounted for as much as $1,000,000 in Russell County in 1956, according to a report from County Agent C. A. Woods Jr.

Top producer was the county's 10,759 acres of cotton which produced $900,000. Average wield was 243 pounds of lint cotton per acre.

The county's approximate 1,800 dairy cattle accounted for the second highest income—an estimated $850,000. Beef cattle produced an income of $690,000.

Livestock production, including hogs, beef and dairy industry produced incomes above the 1955 yield while production of cotton, peanuts and corn were all below the yield of the year before.

The county's 23,000 acres of corn produced only an average of 18 bushels per acre, far below the 30-bushel average of 1955. The average 243-pound per acre cotton yield was also below the 1955 yield of 365 pounds.

Peanuts dropped from an average yield of 890 pounds per acre to 660.

The reduced yield was understandable in view of the unusually good crop yield in 1955, Agent Woods reported. Reduced yields in 1956 were due largely to extremely hot weath in July and early August, he said.

An increase in net farm income is anticipated in 1957 along with an increase in beef cattle production.

Alabama Farm Income For Past Year Shows 18 Per Cent Decline From 1955

News Lustezie, Ala. P. 1 Thurs. 1-3-57

Special to The News

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Total value of principal crops in Alabama in 1956 amounted to 287.8 million dollars. This represents a decline of 18 per cent from the 350.8 million dollar value of crop production in 1955. Less cotton production in 1956 is chiefly responsible for this decline in total value of crop production from a year earlier; however, the value of a number of other crops including corn and hay were less than in 1955. The value of production for a number of crops shows an increase over 1955; among these are potatoes, wheat, oats, soybeans and peaches.

The 1956 crop season was mostly favorable and good yields were attained. It became somewhat dry in late April and May, causing some poor stands on cotton but soil moisture conditions were favorable in Southeastern counties during the peanut planting season and most fields came up to excellent stands. This partially explains the record high per acre yield of peanuts produced in 1956.

In the Northern and West-Central part of the state the Summer was mostly dry with late corn producing very little in these areas. In the South, frequent showers during June and July created a favorable enviroment for boll weevils and limited the effectiveness of control measures. Weather conditions during harvest were generally good except for hurricane "Flossy" which hit Southern counties on Sept. 24, causing considerable damage to cotton, peanuts and pecans.

The 1956 corn crop is estimated at 56,675,000 bushels. This is significantly below the record 1955 production of 68,010,000 bushels but still well above average. The 25.0 bushels per acre yield in 1956 is exceeded only by the record 1955 yield of 30.0 bushels per acre. The 1956 acreage harvested at 2,267,000 acres is substantially below the 10 year average but it is the same as the previous year.

Cotton production in 1956 totaled an estimated 750,000 equivalent 500 pound gross weight bales. This compares with 1,045,000 bales produced in 1955 and the 10 year average of 880,000 bales. The acreage harvested in 1956 at 970,000 acres is about 7 per cent below the previous year. The yield of lint cotton per acre at 371 pounds in 1956 is well above average but significantly below the record 478 pounds per acre produced in 1955.

A record high yield of 1050 pounds of peanuts was produced in 1956. The acreage picked and threshed at 214,000 acres is 5 percent less than in 1955 and far below the 10-year average for Alabama. The 1956 production is estimated at 225 milion pounds compared with 214 milion pounds in 1955 and the 10-year average o f259 million pounds.

Extension Bulletin Says Piedmont Farm Too Small For Efficient, Economical U.

Advertiser Mon. 1-14-57 P. 8-A Montgomery, Ala.

AUBURN, Ala., Jan. 13—Tenant farms in Alabama's Piedmont area are too small and farm capital is inadequate for efficient and economical units.

This is one of the many findings reported in Bulletin 303, "Farm Rental Arrangements in Alabama's Piedmont," released this month by the API Agricultural Experiment Station and authored by John L. Snare, former associate agricultural economist.

"Accordingly," observed Snare, "one of the problems facing tenants and landlords, as well as owner - operators, is to enlarge their farms and to use more capital."

Data for findings in the publication were obtained by visits to 370 farm tenants and owners in seven counties of the Piedmont, a rolling to hilly section. The counties include Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Lee, Randolph and Tallapoosa. The study was conducted in cooperation with the Southeast Land Tenure Research committee.

The survey showed that tenants in the Piedmont stay on a farm an average of 6.2 years as compared with 15.6 years for owner-operators. Most Piedmont leases were found to be oral, one-year agreements with no definite renewal. Snare reported the most common tenant arrangements are cropper and share. Cotton is the major crop.

"Vagueness in leases puts a heavy burden on the compatibility of personalities of landlords and tenants," wrote Snare. "Clear, specific, and detailed rental contracts are not substitutes for sound character in landlords or tenants, but in many cases they may be an aid in improving landlord-tenant relations."

Snare noted that there were no livestock farms among tenants. This absence of livestock farms indicated that "there was something about rental arrangements that r e t a r d e d adjustments or changes," he observed.

Tenants made up 57 per cent of all farmers in the Piedmont in 1940 and 35 per cent in 1950. The farms average well over 100 acres, but less than 20 per cent of this area is harvested cropland. Cash receipts from sale of farm products are low, Snare said.

The Piedmont population was listed as 180,000 in 1950 with more than two-thirds rural. About 60 per cent of the farm operators work off farms in textile, lumber and other industries.

Many Changes Due In Year Ahead For County Farmers

BY JACK BOLLING
County Agent

Farmers in Macon County will see many changes and new programs in operation for 1957. How these changes will affect the overall farm program and agricultural income is yet to be seen. With the farm income better than 4½ million dollars in the county for 1956, this figure could change either up or down in 1957, depending upon the course that farmers follow for 1957, together with weather conditions and other happenings.

The income from cotton for the year 1956 was approximately $1,785,000, with beef cattle running second with an income of $1,050,000. Since cotton has been and still is our major source of income, it could easily drop into second place in 1957 if farmers participate materially in the new Soil Bank Program. Indications are now that farmers will divert considerable acreage of Macon County's approximately 17,000 acres of cotton to the Soil Bank Program, thereby reducing the total gross income from this crop in 1957. Although, this does not mean that the take-home dollar will be less in 1957 from this crop; in fact, the net returns could be greater. This is due to the increase in cost of production, which in a large measure will affect the number of acres that will be taken out of production and put into the Soil Bank Program. The government payment for taking cotton out of production will in many cases be greater than the net returns farmers are now making from trying to produce this crop. News 1-10-57

There should be a considerable

increase in income from livestock and livestock products, poultry and poultry products. Since many farmers will be cutting down on their row crop operations, there will be an increase in the production of many of the other agricultural products.

Farmers of the county are now producing and harvesting crops from approximately 57,000 acres of land, which is the lowest acreage of production on record. There has been and will continue to be an increase in woodland and other timber production, there now being approximately 110,000 acres in woodland in the county. It is also expected that the approximately 19,000 acres of idle land in the county will be put into timber and pasture production, the major portion going to timber. The greatest acreage in the county is now devoted to pasture, there being approximately 154,000 acres. Of this approximately 50 per cent is improved pasture and the remainder is non-improved pasture or land that has been taken out of row crops. Much emphasis will be placed on better utilization of this large acreage during 1957 and the present outlook is that a considerable portion of this land will go to timber production where plant material is available and farmers will strive to further develop and improve their grazing lands for an expanded livestock program.

From the acreage available for grazing and forage production, Macon County could easily double its income from livestock and livestock products and so far there are no allotments or quotas attached to this phase of our agricultural program.

The biggest portion of this amount—13,322,400—has been set aside for reserve cotton acreage payments.

In Alabama's eight commercial corn producing counties—Madison, Marshall, Jackson, DeKald, Limestone, Morgan, Cherokee, and Etowah—allocation for reserve corn acreage payments totals $1,208,000.

The remaindr of the money has been allocated for tobacco payments—$11,000 for flue-cured and $800 for burley.

Jones revealed that 1957 payment rates to farmers under the Acreage Reserve Program are set at approximately 15 cents per pound for cotton and appriximately 99 cents per bushel for corn.

Jones explained that under the 1957 program no minimum was set on the acreage to go into the Soil Bank. In other words, a farmer may put none or as little as one-half acre into reserve.

However, he pointed out the program has been changed. The maximum acreages which a farmer can place in the Soil Bank are: cotton, 10 acres of 30 per cent of the allotment, whichever is larger; corn, 20 acres or 30 per cent of the allotment; flue - cured tobacco, three acres or 30 per cent of the allotment, and burley tobacco, one acre or 30 per cent of the allotment.

A farmer who wishes to participate in the 1957 program must sign separate agreements for the acreage he is putting in reserve for each commodity. Deadlines for filing these agreements are March 1 for cotton and tobacco and March 8 for corn.

The acreage placed in reserve, according to Jones, must be land suitable for the production of the crop under agreement. No crop may be harvested from the acreage reserve, nor can this land be grazed between the date of the agreement and Jan. 1, 1958.

This year's program also calls for a reduction of payments if new land is brought into cultivation after the agreement is signed. The amount of the reduction will be based on the number of newly cultivated acres.

Payments may also be reduced if the county ASC committee decides that land placed in reserve is not as productive as the average acreage normally planted in this particular crop.

Provision is also made in the program for the county ASC committee to inspect each farm before an agreement is signed. Then, payment rates are set up for each farmer. If the farmer is not satisfied, the rates may be appealed.

Farmers will be notified by their local ASC offices when applications can be made to join the Acreage Program of the Soil Bank.

$15 Million In Alabama Soil Bank

Almost $15 million has been set aside this year to pay Alabama farmers who participate in the 1957 Acreage Reserve Program of the Soil Bank.

James H. Jones, chairman of the state ASC committee, announced at Auburn today that Alabama's allocation from the national government for this year's program totals $14,542,200.

Beiman on business—

Share-croppers out in Alabama

BY IRVING BEIMAN
News business editor

Share-cropping may be on its way out in Alabama.

A report from the U. S. Department of Commerce shows that Alabama lost 7575 share-croppers in the past five years.

BEIMAN

THERE ARE still more than 200,000 share-croppers in the seven Southeastern states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and the Carolinas, however.

Mississippi, the leader, had 59,703 share-croppers; North Carolina, 49,722; Georgia, 27,688; Tennessee, 23,740; South Carolina, 23,031, and Alabama, 17,236.

Only in Florida is share-cropping virtually extinct. That state at latest count had only 826 "croppers," one of the smallest numbers, if not the smallest, in the United States.

AS ALABAMA lost 7575 "croppers" in the 5-year period, the state also lost 29,278 farming operational units.

The reason for this, the report stated, is the impact of mechanization. Hardest hit has been cotton. Acreage allotments, mechanization and expanding, as well as "more attractive opportunities" for off-farm employment, especially in periods of declining farm income, were listed as major factors in the changes taking place.

Hen Handwriting Appears On Eggs At Motley Home

Maybe the hen has absorbed some education from nearby Tuskegee Institute. Anyway, somewhere along the line she seems to have learned to write.

Frank Motley, who lives in North Greenwood, is showing friends his pet hen lays almost every day on which are fine lines that resemble handwriting.

One such egg has his own initials, "F M," clearly inscribed on one end. Another had the word "No" which was perfectly formed in fine script.

Frank says that the Rhode Island Red hen is a pet and follows members of the family around the yard.

County Soil Bank Program Will Be Started Monday

Next Monday is the opening date for Macon County farmers to place cotton land in the Soil Bank's acreage reserve program.

Applications under the program will be taken and payments made on a first come, first served basis, said, J. H. Lamar, chairman of the county's Agricultural Stablization and Conservation Committee. He added that applications will be accepted only as long as the amount of individual payments applied for does not exceed the funds to be allocated to the county under Soil Bank provisions.

Although the deadline for filing applications is March 1, county funds will probably be exhausted long beforehand.

The current program is for 1957 only, explained Chairman Lamar. Placing cotton in the acreage reserve will not affect 1958 allotments.

A farmer can have in the acreage reserve no more than 10 acres or 30 percent of his cotton allotment, which ever is greater.

The federal government has allocated $13,322,440 to pay Alabama cotton farmers who elect to use the acreage reserve. The aim of the program is to reduce the acreage of those crops now in surplus.

This county's share of the acreage reserve funds for cotton, to be announced later, will be determined by its cotton yields of the past 10 years, adjusted upward for poor crop years. Individual rates within the county will vary according to farm yields.

1b 1957

FIRE ANTS LIVE HERE—Extent of Argentine fire ant invasion is seen in this Southern field. A shovel handle is thrust down into the soft earth of a fire ant mound, and other similar mounds scatter the field in background.

Pests Destroy Crops, Animals

Fire Ants Eat Way North

By Joe Azbell

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Apr. 21.—A stinging, mound-building ant which destroys crops and attacks human beings and animals is inching its way toward the northern part of the United States. Its destructive power may this year cause one of the biggest financial losses ever suffered in the South.

The destroyer is the Argentine fire ant, whose millions of wide, sixteen-inch-high mounds has rendered the farmland of nine Southern states almost useless for agriculture until the pest is removed.

The Argentine fire ant, which is closely related to the domestic species, is yellow-orange in color. Entomologists say that the name stems from the insect's vicious sting which feels like a red-hot needle.

Infests 20,000,000 Acres

The fire ants have infested more than 20,000,000 acres in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Georgia and scattered locations in Arkansas, South Carolina and North Carolina with odd-looking tumor mounds, according to United States Department of Agriculture.

Each mound is estimated to contain 25,000 ants with sixty to seventy mounds to the average acre, or, about 1,500,000 ants an acre.

In Alabama, one of the hardest-hit states, more than 11,974,164 acres are infested, with Montgomery County, the worst single area in the nation, with 50,000 ant-ridden acres.

C. M. Stanley, editor of "The Montgomery Journal," described the fire ants in an editorial as the "worst insect plague in the South's history." Radio and TV stations and newspapers daily carry announcements of control methods.

"Creeping Power"

Agricultural authorities believe the "creeping power of the fire ant" is to be most feared. At a present rate, the plague could reach Pennsylvania and New York possibly within ten years, or, if the ant population continues to grow, much sooner.

A. W. Todd, Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture, told the United States Department of Agriculture in an appeal for government aid that damage would amount to more than $100,000,000 a year in Alabama for the next ten years if the fire ants are not brought under control.

Mr. Todd estimated damage in thirty-seven Alabama counties this year at more than $25,000,000. "At the present rate of movement, every acre in Alabama would be infested by 1960," he said.

Federal Program

The United States Senate recently approved legislation to wage a Federal war on the fire ants, but Alabama farmers are still concerned about the amount of time the organization of this program will require.

Costs of treatment, which is effective with chlordane, range from $5 to $15 an acre, depending on infestation. An Alabama farmer with 1,000 acres would pay between $5,000 and $15,000 to control fire ants. Even after control he might miss a crop because of the softened dirt of the mounds. This outlay could wipe out savings of many farmers.

Farm helpers balk at fire-ant control work and at picking cotton or planting crops in affected areas because of the vicious sting of the ant and the consequence of the sting.

Child Killed

The sting results in boil-like sores on human beings. At least one child, a three-year-old, in Louisiana, has died of the effects of a sting and countless numbers of people have been hospitalized. The ants have also killed and "carried off" hundreds of head of livestock. In Georgia, the fire ant is blamed for a 15 per cent drop in quail population because of nest infestation.

Commissioner Todd said that fire ants have killed new-born calves on scores of Alabama farms. C. T. Fitzpatrick, a South Alabama farmer, said three calves on his farm in Monroe County were killed and stripped clean by the ants.

At Maxwell Air Force Base there are more than 150,000 fire-ant mounds. Five people at the base have been hospitalized after being stung by the ants.

Came In on Boats

The fire ant came to this country about thirty years ago to Mobile on boats from Argentina.

A few hundred ants, if transported from Alabama to New York's dairyland, would be sufficient to infest all of New England within a few years, according to farm experts. The insects can live under almost any climatic condition but are retarded somewhat by extreme freezing weather.

The proposed government control program is expected to stop the ant's progress. There is some belief that it may be several years before it is destroyed.

Huddleston appeals to U. S for farm aid

Alabama farmers have suffered an estimated $60 million crop loss this year from adverse weather conditions.

This statement was made by Rep. George Huddleston Jr., Birmingham, in a letter yesterday to Sec. of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson.

Huddleston urged the Department of Agriculture to conduct an investigation of crop damage for the purpose of declaring disaster areas. "Unless our farmers are made eligible for federal loans," he wrote, "the economy of the entire state and region will be adversely affected.

"Crops were first stunted by a prolonged drouth during the growing season, and a large portion of the crops which reached maturity rotted in the fields because of heavy precipitation lasting several weeks during the harvest season."

HUDDLESTON said cotton and peanuts, two of the state's principal money crops, have been hardest hit.

"Our farmers face extreme difficulty in paying off money borrowed to make good destroyed 1957 crops and in obtaining credit for financing 1958 crops. Farmers all over Alabama are in a critical state of affairs. The situation is urgent.

"It is my information that the farm situation is now much more acute than it was during the 1954 drouth. At that time the total damage was estimated at $35 million, and large portions of the state were declared disaster areas.

"Farm losses due to adverse weather conditions this year will undoubtedly be the largest in Alabama history," he wrote.

TODD FROWNS ON SHIFT

Farm Population Switching To Cities

By KEN FLINN
United Press Staff Correspondent

Alabama farm families are flocking to the cities and Agriculture Commissioner A. W. Todd doesn't like it.

"If this keeps up we're headed for another national depression," Todd predicted.

The State Industrial Relations Department issued a report last week indicating the population of Alabama has switched from rural areas to the cities. The state had only 12 per cent of its people living in cities in 1900 but today more than half the population lives in urban areas.

"With all of those people jammed into cities we'll have some who can't eat when we have a recession," Todd said. "And if our farmers don't stay on the soil we're heading for a disaster.

"The panic of the '30s had its beginning on the rural farms in the southeastern states. The strength of our economy in the state and in the nation is based on the stability of our farm economy."

The Industrial Relations Department report analyzed the population shift as a result of rising industrialization and noted the state's average per capita income increased between 1940 and 1955.

But Todd pictured the trend as a downfall of the farmer in Alabama.

"A million and a half acres of cotton in Alabama have been taken out of production as a result of the national administration's soil bank program," Todd said.

"Most of it went to the big farms out west where they produce a stringy variety quite inferior to the good, long-staple cotton we grow on our small farms in the South."

Cotton has long been king in Alabama since the state's admittance to the Union. But this year—for the first time in history—the crop is no longer the leading money producer. It isn't even in second place.

The poultry industry now leads the state, followed by cattle production and then cotton.

(See FARM, Page 2A)

Todd has been a consistent foe of the soil bank program almost since its inception. He said it already has caused a rural depression in the state.

"And if farmers don't stay on the soil we're heading for another big national depression," he warned.

He called for "new farm program that will guarantee each farmer at least enough basic crop acreage that he will receive his share of the state and national income."

Alabama Now Fastest Growing Beef Cattle Producing State In Nation

Special to The News

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama is now on the nation's fastest growing beef cattle producing state, Mortimer H. Jordan, Birmingham, president of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association, said in revealing the state now has nearly a million and a quarter head of beef cattle.

"Beef Cattle", Jordan continued, "is now one of Alabama's major agricultural crops, with cash reciepts bringing more than 55 million dollars annually into the State, as compared to only 7½ million dollars in 1940."

Presently there are 1,175,000 head of cattle on Alabama's fine pastures, ranking the State 18th in the nation, 4th in the Southeast and 6th in states east of the Mississippi. There are only 24 other states which boast a total beef cattle count of more than a million head, Jordan added.

Alabama's growth in beef cattle production is clearly reflected in the number of stockyards operating within the State — a hundred today compared with only 14 in 1940, and the largest livestock market east of Fort Worth and South of the Ohio River is in Alabama at Montgomery, the Alabama Cattlemen's Association president said.

In breeding herds, cows and heifers two years old and older, Alabama ranks 14th nationally, a fine standing for a state where row crops have so long dominated the agricultural income picture, Jordan believes.

There is a bright future ahead for the cattle industry in Alabama, Jordan predicts, with all the State's natural advantages combining to improve and better balance the entire farm situation and the general overall economic condition in the State.

The Alabama Cattlemen's Association, with an active county association in each of Alabama's 67 counties and with a membership of more than 5,000 is one of the largest state groups in the nation.

CRATING STRAWBERRIES

Billy Montgomery, of Castleberry, Rt. 1, brings up more crates of strawberries from the field, while his wife, Jeffie, keeps busy at the grading shelter. The berries are picked up by truck and delivered to market. The Montgomery's have been growing and marketing strawberries for about 40 years.

'Disaster Relief' Asked By Folsom

BY DONALD F. MARTIN
United Press Staff Writer

MONTGOMERY, Oct. 23—Gov. James E. Folsom tonight requested President Eisenhower to declare the "entire state of Alabama a major disaster area" because of crop losses from recent rains and an earlier drought.

Gov. Folsom telegraphed Mr. Eisenhower late tonight requesting the disaster relief after a "thorough and absolutely sound" survey showed Alabama farmers have lost $50 million because of September rains and a preceding drought.

Earlier, Agriculture Commissioner A. W. Todd charged that if Federal aid is not extended to Alabama cotton and peanut farmers "it will be a further demonstration that the (Eisenhower) leaders have nothing but hatred in their hearts for the people of this state and section of our nation."

The text of Folsom's telegram:

"In accordance with Public Law 875, 81st Congress, I hereby certify that the entire state of Alabama is a major disaster area by reason of crop losses caused by recent heavy rainfall.

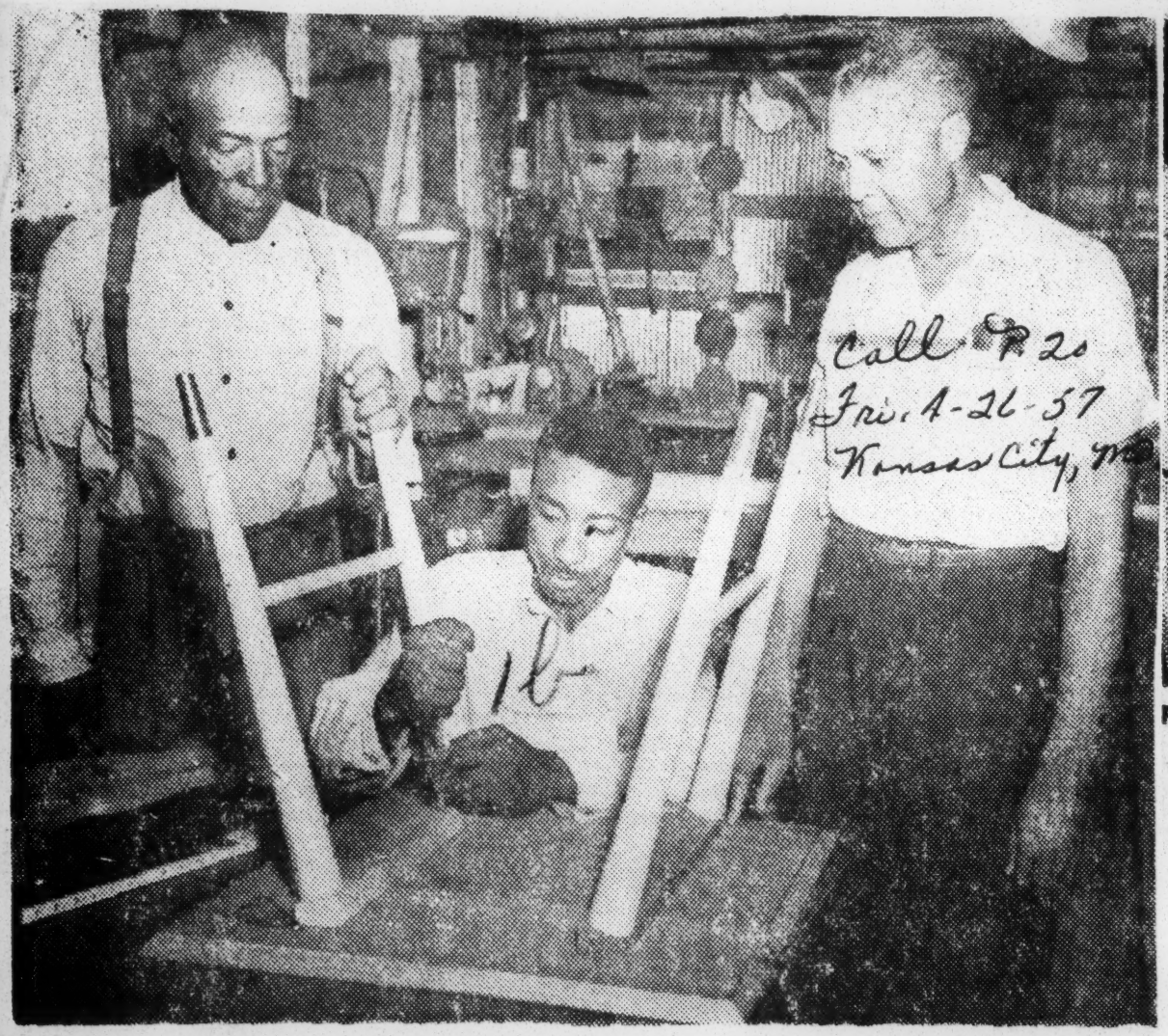
"An investigation made by the Alabama Agriculture and Industry Dept. reveals that Alabama farmers have suffered a $50 million loss during the month of September and the first week of October due to climatic conditions.

The investigation further reveals that the loss in production of cotton of 75,000 bales amounted to $12,600 and the reduction in the price of 350,000 bales due to the fact that quality of cotton was damaged amounted to $14 million. Damage to cotton seed amounted to more than $2 million. Loss in production of peanuts, $4½ million and the loss of price of 60,000 tons of peanuts, also due to quality damage, amounted to $6 million. Corn damage is estimated at $7,200,000. Other crops including hay, small grains, amounted to $5 million."

The report further revealed that severe losses prior to the rain due to dry weather caused a loss of $3½ million to corn by reducing the corn yield by 10 million bushels, of which 25 per cent would have been sold on the market and also $2 million in peanut production.

"It is therefore respectfully requested that the entire state of Alabama be declared a major disaster area so that farmers in our state can derive all benefits possible from Federal aid. . . ."

Todds' charges apparently were prompted by a statement from Wesley D'Ewart, assistant to the director of agricultural services in Washington, who said there was not enough physical damage to crops in Alabama to warrant the use of emergency agricultural conservation practices funds.



$5,000 FROM A SIDELINE. — This woodworking shop on a farm near Sardis, Ala., brings in close to $5,000 a year as a sideline income. John Moss, 27, center, and his father, Thomas Moss, Sr., left, are shown finishing a limed ash television table for a customer in Montgomery. Looking on is State Extension Leader W. B. Hill. An activity such as this is an asset to the Rural Development program which is seeking to encourage the establishment of more nonfarm enterprises.—USDA Photo.

Farmer Earns $5,000 A Year From A Sideline

WASHINGTON—In line with the need for more nonfarm enterprises in the South to help take some of the pressure off cotton and other crops in surplus, a colored farm family of Sardis, Ala., has established a woodworking shop as a sideline, which brings close to $5,000 a year, reports W. B. Hill, state leader of Negro extension work in Alabama.

The family is that of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Moss Sr., whose son, John, has developed his woodworking hobby ino a family business in which all take part repairing, refinishing, and making new furniture and cabinets for white and colored customers from fifty miles around, including Montgomery and Selma, U. S. Department of Agriculture officials point out that such enterprises are an asset to the Rural Development Program.

Mr. Hill says the younger Mr. Moss got started in woodwork in high school and took some additional training in the craft at Stillman college, Tulscaloosa, where he majored in science.

Saw Need For Extra Job

When he graduated in 1952 and returned home to help the family with the plowing during the summer before taking a teaching job at Lutheran Academy, Selma, he recognized the need for developing some type of sideline enterprise to make up for the smaller cotton acreage his parents were growing because of allotments and because they were growing old and could no longer put in a full day in the field with his brother and one of his sisters, who would soon be going to college.

That was when he hit upon the idea of expanding his hobby into a business venture. The parents provided some of the money for tools and for construction of the shop, and found it relaxing and cooler than field work in the middle of the day to sand and paint furniture with and electric fan blowing on them.

Today, the Mosses have a $6,000 woodworking shop a few paces from their attractve farm home. In their shop, they turn out close to $5,000 worth of work in their spare time, and still grow cotton and feed grains and livestock on their 80-acre farm.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE. — Sampling the soup for his wife who is about to can a few jars is Thomas Moss, Sr., of Sardis, Ala. Looking on is their home demonstration agent, Miss Lucy Upshaw, left. Mrs. Moss cans 150 to 200 jars of fruits, vegetables, and vegetable soup every year. — USDA Photo.

They use to grow as much as 40 acres of cotton, but since they and other farmers voted for acreage allotments and marketing quotas, their cotton crop is now down to less than 20 acres. However, they have continued to work on the yield. Since 1951, it has increased from 400 pounds of lint cotton per acre to 480, or nearly a bale to the acre.

They have achieved this higher yield by following the recommendations of their county agent, Charles D. Scott, and his assistant, Grover C. Brooks. The agents have encouraged them to poison for boll weevils and other pests, to turn under such cover crops as vetch and Austrian winter peas, and to have their soil tested and then to apply fertilizer in accordance with the needs of their land.

Own 80-Acres of Land

When Mr. and Mrs. Moss were married 37 years ago, they were glad to get a third of a bale to the acre as sharecroppers on untreated land. It took them two years to save up enough from cotton and from his job as a porter in a store in the winter to make the down-payment on a $150 mule and become renters.

Today, they own 80 acres, a modern home, a tractor, a truck, 26 hogs, and 30 head of beef cattle, including a registered Hereford bull, grazing in pastures of oats, dallis grass, and White Dutch clover. An inportant factor in their climb has been their savings on food. Their home agent, Miss Lucy Upshaw, has encouraged them to produce and conserve year-around food supplies.

Mr. and Mrs. Moss have turned over to John most of the managerial responsibilities on the farm. He grew up as a 4-H club boy and got his parents interested in livestock about 10 years ago when he bought a Hereford calf, at the suggestion of his county agent, and fattened it for the Livestock Show where the animal was choser grand champion, bringing $1,000

One day John and his brother, Thomas, Jr., who is a senior at Alabama A. & M. College, Huntsville, will take over the farm, says Mr. Hill. They have indicated that they will concentrate on pastures, feed grains, livestock, and the woodworking shop.

CANNING FOOD AT ALA. A. & M. — In top photo (above), are some Limestone County farmers and homemakers watching C. H. McDaniel, county agent, demonstrate the use of the capping machine at the Alabama A. & M. College canning plant. These families canned several hundred quarts of sweet potatoes at the plant in 1956. At right, a big transfer truck is shown waiting for a load of United States Number One sweet potatoes at the Pleas Orr Farm, at Tanner, Route 1, Ala. Orr (left) and County Agent McDaniel are checking samples of the crop before loading.

'BEST IN HISTORY'

Alabama Farmers May Gross $60 Million In Cattle Sales

By LILLIAN DeLOACH

A representative of a packing company serving Alabama yesterday warned state cattlemen against producing "unfinished" calves and steers for the consumers' market.

J. M. Gentry, manager of the R. L. Zeigler Co. of Selma, said that of three to four thousand "baby beefs" produced, about 80 per cent don't have the quality to go into the feeder market.

"They are cheap in price and quality, and the merchant sells them cheaply," he said.

Autry said Alabama's cattle industry is on a firmer foundation than it has been in its history. One reason he gave is that cattlemen have had the "fortitude to keep the industry free," to deny government subsidies and controls.

He discouraged abandoning the cow-and-calf program for an exclusive steer-raising program.

W H. Gregory, livestock specialist with the Alabama Polytechnic Institute Extension Service, in an earlier talk to the Alabama Cattlemen's Assn., estimated that Alabama farmers would this year gross nearly $60 million from the sale of cattle and calves.

Alabama beef production, he said, has increased 209 per cent in 10 years. This figure, he said, is greater than increases in Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Ohio—major beef producing states.

J. P. Henry, Pintlala, president of the Montgomery County association, was awarded a Stetson hat for recruiting 38 new members.

Dr. Ralph B. Draughon, president of API, was among other guest speakers at the noon luncheon at the Whitley Hotel.

State president Mortimer Jordan presided at the meeting.

Irrigated Cotton Viewed On Tour Of County Farms

BY BILL FOREHAND

Some 30 farmers agricultural workers and business men saw what irrigated cotton is doing in Macon County on a tour Tuesday afternoon planned by County Agent Bolling.

Three farms were visited on the tour, the Joe and Kelly Sistrunk farm, Lazenby Brothers farm, and B. W. Walker farm. The Sistrunk and Lazenby operation is a sprinkler type system and the Walker farm is a furrow or flood type system.

Among those farmers on this tour were Harvey Segrest, E. D. Segrest, L. A. Ruff, Wylie Kirby, Ben Walker, Raymond Butler, Kelly Sistrunk, Roy Lazenby, R. M. Reaves, district agent, API Extension Service; Dr. Bowers, API irrigation specialist; W. C. Little, API engineer; Everette Story, Lawrence Ennis, Extension Service engineer; Floyd Richards, A. A. Sheppard, area conservation agent; Henry Grimes, L. L. Walker, Milton Douglas, Soil Conservation Service; Jim Delbridge, Soil Conservation Service; John Thornton, Tom O' Brien, A. W. Whit, R. E. Bond, county ASC chairman; Walter Samuel, Earl Thornton; Stuart X. Stephenson, Montgomery Advertiser representative; W. H. Johnson; J. M. Bolling, county agent; and Bill Forehand assistant county agent.

1b 1957

ANTI-ANT BILL

ANT BILL GETS IKE'S SIGNATURE

Fri, 5-24-57

Ellender Expects Okay of Funds Next Year

New Orleans Item

By EDGAR POE

(Times-Picayune staff correspondent)

WASHINGTON, May 24—President Eisenhower signed into law Thursday the anti-fire ant bill designed to control the ever-spreading pest.

The law authorizes the department of agriculture to direct an attack on the ant along with other pests. However, it does not provide funds which must come in subsequent legislation.

After the White House advised him that President Eisenhower had attached his signature to the bill, Sen. Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, chairman of the Senate agriculture committee, expressed the hope and belief that Congress will provide necessary funds to initiate an assault on the ant during the next fiscal year.

The Louisiana senator said it is necessary for the federal and state agencies to co-ordinate their efforts in outlining a co-operative attack. He explained that the House has passed the department of agriculture appropriations bill and the measure is now pending in the Senate. He suggested that the measure be amended in committee to include funds for controlling the fire ant. Sen. Ellender is a member of the appropriations committee in addition of being chairman of the agriculture committee.

The anti-fire ant bill had the backing of all the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama members of Congress, as well as members from other Southern states.

The fire ant, which first was brought into this country through the port of Mobile years ago, has been spreading at a fast rate, according to testimony presented to House and Senate agriculture committees.

The big ants destroy truck crops and young plants, damage the turf of lawns, cause painful injuries to children, and have been known to kill new-born calfs and other young animals.

LANDOWNER CHAMPION—Eugene Bell (left) and Mrs. Bell of Oneida, Phillips County, won first place and a $50 prize in the Landowner Division. Operators of a 480-acre farm, they grow cotton, cattle, swine, soybeans and feed crops. Assisting the Bells with their profitable farm program is County Agent Lester Hopkins.

IMPROVE HOME — Mr. and Mrs. Simon Phillips and their granddaughter, Louise Phillips (left), of Route 2, Stuttgart, Monroe County, were selected as state winners in home improvement for tenants. Living on an 80-acre place, they were aided in their farm and home program by Mrs. L. C. Muldrow, Negro home agent, and County Agent Percell Ryan.

20 years getting started, now owns 500 acres, Mechanical cottonpicker

WASHINGTON

An Arkansas colored farmer, who sharecropped and tenant farmed for more than 20 years before he saved up enough to buy land of his own, now has 500 acres, an 8-room rambler and a mechanical cotton picker.

So reports District Agent T. R. Betton of the Arkansas Extension Service.

The farmer, Ed Williams of Marvell, Ark., says he and Mrs. Williams never started getting ahead until they stopped eating out of the grocery store and began raising most of their food.

"They still follow this practice," states Mr. Betton, "and out of it have developed sideline farm enterprises such as the production of poultry and eggs, hogs, beef cattle and truck crops which bring in money throughout the year to supplement their income from cotton and soybeans."

* * *

FOR EXAMPLE, Mr. and Mrs. Williams sell around 30 dozen eggs and a few hampers of vegetables every week. Also they sell annually 20 to 30 hogs, 15 to 20 calves and a few cows culled from their herd of 50 head.

When Mr. and Mrs. Williams were married in 1926, he had been sharecropping and tenant farming 40 acres of cotton and corn for nearly 10 years. All he had were a cow and a calf and a pair of mules.

Eight years later they were still renting 40 acres, but the depression and their farm and home agents from the extension service had taught them to grow more of their food for themselves and their five children.

* * *

THEIR FARM agent also had shown them the advantage of selecting an improved variety of cotton seed, applying fertilizer and controlling boll weevils and other insects.

That was the beginning of their rise. That fall they bought another pair of mules and made arrangements to rent more land. By 1940, they had bought a tractor and were renting 140 acres.

The next year they bought their first piece of land—160 acres. Little by little they added to it until by 1952, they had 500 acres, a daughter had 230,

WINNING FAMILIES — Two Phillips County, Ark., brothers won state first place prizes in the Negro Division of The Commercial Appeal's 1957 Plant To Prosper Contest. Chosen as champions in home improvement for landowners were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Billingsley (left) of Route 2, Lexa. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Billingsley, same address, were named top tenant winners. Lester Hopkins (right), Negro county agent, worked closely with both families.

Sharecropper, After Slow Start, Discovers Success

An Arkansas farmer, who sharecropped and tenant-farmed for more than 20 years before he saved up enought to buy land of his own, now has 500 acres, an 8-room rambler, and a mechanical cotton picker, reports District Agent T. R. Betton of the Caykansas State Extension Service.

The farmer is Ed Williams of Marvoll, Ark., who says he and Mrs. Williams never started getting ahead until they stopped eating out of the grocery store and began raising most of their food.

"They still follow this practice," states Betton, "and out of it have developed sideline farm enterprises such as the production of poultry and eggs, hogs, beef cattle, and truck crops which bring in money throughout the year to supplement their income from cotton and soybeans."

For example, Mr. and Mrs. Williams sell around 36 dozen eggs and a few hampers of vegetables every week. Also they sell annually 20 to 30 hogs, 15 to 20 calves, and a few cows culled from their herd of 50 head.

When Mr. and Mrs. Williams were married in 1926, he had been sharecropping and tenant-farming 40 acres of cotton and corn for nearly 10 years. All he had were a cow a calf and a pair of mules.

Eight years later they were still renting 40 acres, but the depression and their farm and home agents from the Extension Service had taught them to grow more of their food for themselves and their five children.

Their farm agent also has shown them the advantages of selecting an improved variety of cotton seed, applying fertilizer, and controlling boll weevils and other insects.

That was the beginning of their rise. That fall they bought another pair of mules and made arrangements to rent more land. By 1940, they had bought a tractor and were renting 140 acres.

The next year they bought their first piece of land — 160 acres. Little by little they added to i until by 1952, they had 500 acre a daughter had 230 and a son 120.

The Williamses use modern machinery to plant, cultivate and harvest their cotton, corn, soybeans, and hay. They have four tractors and attachments, a combine, a hay baler and mechanical cotton picker.

In addition to handling their own crops, they do custom work for neighbors, says Betton.

Three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Williams started thinking about that long dreamed-of home they wanted to build. The farm agent, Lester Hopkins, and the special farm and home development agent, Learrie White, brought them plans from the state office.

And the home agent, Mrs. Gertrude B. LeMay, brought along publications on selecting furniture, color harmony, and kitchen de- him a check for payment in full. A few days later the furniture trucks came.

Now in the evening when the chores are done, Mr. and Mrs. 8-room rambler and they handed true.

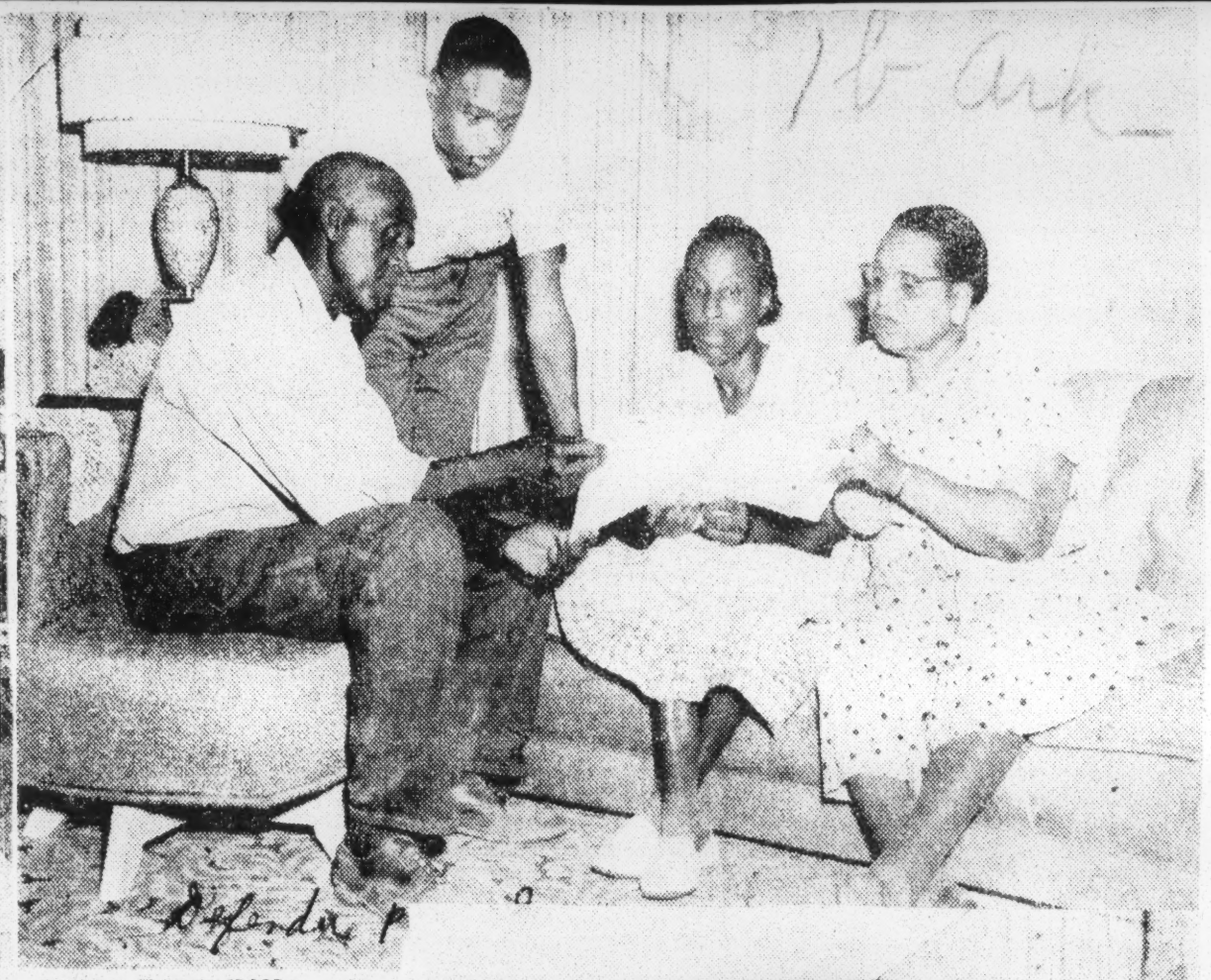
In March of 1955, the contrac- tor handed them the key to their signs.

The Williamses looked at the home plans, then they went to Helena and Little Rock and looked at furniture and appliances.

Back home, they got out their bankbook and took a long look at their savings. Finally they decided to see their dream come Williams sit in their easy chairs and look through their big picture window toward the old house in which they used to live, says Betton.

"Better than anything else, it tells them how far they have come."

MECHANIZED FARMING — Ed Williams, center, of Marvell, Ark., believes in efficient farming and good living. He is shown fueling one of his four tractors. Looking on are County Agent Lester Hopkins, left and District Agent T. R. Betton. He also has a mechanical cotton picker. In the background is his modern, eight-room rambler. USDA Photo.



INSIDE FARM HOME — Mr. and Mrs. Ed Williams' eight-room rambler on their 500-acre farm near Marvell, Ark., is as modern as any city dwelling. They are shown looking over farm plans with two Arkansas Extension Service officials. Left to right are: Mr. Williams, Learrie White, farm and home development specialist; Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Gertrude B. LeMay, home demonstration agent. — USDA Photo.

OLD HOME — Mr. and Mrs. Ed Williams, center, of Marvell, Ark., lived in this house for 15 years while they dreamed of a new one. They have it now — an eight-room rambler which they are looking at with Mrs. Gertrude B. LeMay, their home demonstration agent; and Learrie White, state farm and home development specialist. — USDA Photo.

15 1957

ARKANSAS

Life on the farm-note . . .

Tribune P. 15

12 years to buy a pair of mules, Arkansas family, thanks to FHA, now owns 160 acres

Col. 4 3-2

Los Angeles Calif

MORO, Ark. — It took 12 years of sharecropping for Mr. and Mrs. Horatius Gray, of Moro, Ark., to save up enough to buy a pair of mules and become cash renters, but after that they were on their way.

Today, the Grays own a 160-acre farm, a modern home, and a fenced pasture of 24 acres for their cattle and hogs. They have accomplished this through increased production, good management, and credit aid from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray were married in 1934. They started sharecropping a few acres of cotton, hoping to earn enough the first year to buy a mule and begin farming as cash renters. But it took them until 1945 to put aside enough to purchase workstock.

They paid $250 cash for a pair of mules and made arrangements to rent 35 acres for the next year's cotton crop. Three years later they had the down-payment for the 160-acre farm they now own.

The couple had five years to pay, but did it in four. But the old house was beyond repair, much of their land was in woods, and pastures and fencing were needed for livestock. At the rate they were going, it would take a long time to make these improvements. Also, their 7 children needed a better home, and production costs were rising, too.

So Mr. and Mrs. Gray applied to FHA for a farm development loan.

They have since built a modern home, got their Soil Conservation district, another U. S. Dept. of Agriculture service, to put each acre to its most effective use, cleared 44 acres of woodland for pastures and additional cropland, fenced 24 acres of improved pasture in White Dutch clover, Sudan grass, ryegrass, and Bermuda.

Grazing there are 15 head of beef cattle and 27 hogs. The couple's goal is 30 grade Hereford brood cows and half a dozen Duroc and Poland China sows to produce 75 head of hogs for a sale year.

The Grays have also begun growing hybrid corn, upping their yield from 21 to 65 bushels per acre. Their FHA county supervisor and Extension farm and home agents advise the family in planning and impoving their farm.

The Grays also raise about 30 bales of cotton off 25 acres and nearly 1,000 bushels of soybeans. They cut their food bill to next to nothing by growing everything for their table, except coffee, sugar, and flour.

Horatius at the Fence—With his sharecropping days well behind him as a result of thrift, good farm management and sound credit, Horatius Gray, center, of Moro, Ark., discusses the future with two Arkansas Extension Service officials, County Agent Henry A. Smith Jr., left, and District Agent T. R. Betton. The fence, pasture and cattle indicate that Mr. Gray no longer counts on cotton alone. The Farmers Home Administration made him a loan to help him diversify his 160-acre farm which he purchased in 1948.—USDA Photo.

Farm Success Story

Courier P. 6

Hard Work Pays Off!

Sat. 4-20-57

Pittsburgh Pa.

Thrift, Good Management, Sound Credit Get Family on Its Way

IT TOOK 12 years of sharecropping for Mr. and Mrs. Horatius Gray of Moro, Ark., to save up enough to buy a pair of mules and become cash renters, but after that they were on their way.

Today, the Grays own a 160-acre farm, a modern home, and a fenced pasture of 24 acres for their cattle and hogs. They have accomplished all this within the past few years through increased production, good management, and credit from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray were married in 1934 while he was employed as a farm hand. Within a few weeks he quit his job and they started sharecropping a few acres of cotton, hoping to earn enough the first year to buy a mule and begin farming as cash renters. But it took them until 1945 to put aside enough to purchase workstock.

■

IN THE fall of that year they paid $250 cash for a pair of mules and made arrangements to rent 35 acres for the next year's cotton crop. Three years later they had the down-payment for the 160-acre farm they now own.

The couple had five years to pay out, but did it in four. However, the old house on the place was beyond repair, much of their land was in woods, and pastures and fencing were needed for livestock. They knew at the rate they were going it would take a long time to make these improvements. Yet their seven children were growing up and needed a better home, and production costs were rising, too, [illegible] for increased efficiency.

So Mr. and Mrs. Gray decided to try to get a loan to make these improvements. Finally they applied to the Farmers Home for a loan, after they were unable to obtain adequate credit elsewhere. Within a short time a farm development loan was approved for them.

■

SINCE THAT time, they have built a modern home, got their Soil Conservation District to map their land so that each acre may be put to its most efficient use, cleared 44 acres of woodland for pastures and additional cropland, and saved and treated enough posts from the cleared land to put up a mile and a half of fencing around 24 acres of improved pastures of White Dutch clover, Sudan grass, rye grass, and Bermuda grass.

Grazing in their pastures are 15 head of beef cattle and 27 hogs. Their goal is 30 grade Hereford brood cows and a half a dozen Duroc and Poland China sows to produce 75 head of hogs for sale a year.

In line with their increased emphasis on livestock, the Grays have not only improved their pastures, but they have also begun growing hybrid corn, upping their yield from 21 to 65 bushels per acre. The Farmers Home county supervisor and the Extension farm and home agents have given the family advice and guidance in planning and making the improvements on their farm.

■

IN ADDITION to livestock and corn, the Grays raise annually about 30 bales of cotton off 25 acres and nearly 1,000 bushels of soybeans off similar

acreage. However, their margin of earnings is not large after expenses are taken out for seed, fertilizer, insecticides, and the operation and maintenance of their tractor and truck. But they cut their food bill down next to nothing by growing just about everything for their table, except coffee, sugar, and flour.

Standing on the porch of their attractive home this time of year, surveying the freshly ployed acres of their fields and looking to the future, the Grays also seem to be looking back to their sharecropper days, measuring how far they have come.

ROCKEFELLER MEETS WITH STATE LEADERS

Commercial Appeal P. 15

Arkansas Group Plans For Industry Aid

Sat. 6-29-57

ADFC TO ISSUE STOCK

Memphis Tenn.

By The Associated Press

MORRILTON, Ark., June 28.—The new Arkansas Development Finance Corp. will give Arkansas a big advantage over other states competing for industry, Winthrop Rockefeller said Friday.

Mr. Rockefeller, addressing a meeting of more than 80 leaders at his Winrock Farm to complete ADFC organization, emphasized that the corporation was formed to aid the expansion of existing industries as well as to bring new ones into the state.

Rockefeller Is Co-Chairman

The oil millionaire, chairman of the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, has served as co-chairman of the corporation's steering committee.

Officials reported that the ADFC already has collected $103,000 in private contributions, more than had been expected under original plans which called for contributions of $1,000 each.

Will Issue Stock

The corporation is expected soon to issue $900,000 worth of noninterest bearing preferred stock to bring its total assets to one million dollars as authorized by the 1957 Legislature.

The steering committee was dissolved Friday and replaced with a temporary board of directors to complete legal organization of the corporation. Each congressional district in Arkansas is represented.

Named To Board

Named to the board were Joe C. Barrett of Jonesboro, W. W. Campbell of Forrest City, Fred Pickens of Newport, Vance M. Thompson of McCrory, Lloyd Hobbs of Fort Smith, H. L. 'Buck' Lewis of Fayetteville, Louis Hurley of El Dorado, Peter Watzek of Crossett, S. T. Smith of Conway, Harvey C. Couch Jr., Herbert L. Thomas Sr. and J. V. Satterfield Jr., all of Little Rock, Wayne Stone of Pine Bluff and H. G. Adams of De Witt.

SOIL MEN MEET—More than 100 farmers attended the first Arkansas Jamboree Soil and Water Conservation contest held at the Arkansas AM&N college in Pine Bluff, Wednesday. The contest was sponsored by the AM&N college in conjunction with the Arkansas Association of Soil Conservation district supervisors and a number of cooperative cotton ginners in eastern Arkansas composing the Ginners Co-operative council which donated funds toward the contest.

Winners in the divisions were Ashley county landowner and a Crittenden county tenant farmer. The landowner winner, E. H. Banks, received a $50 award, and the tenant farmer winner, Silas Brown, received a $50,00 check. Other winners in the landowners division were Nute Smith, Lee county, second $35; John Gammon, Crittenden county, third, $30; and Harvey Bryant, Clark county, fourth, $25.

Jake Phillips of Lonoke county was second place winner in the tenant division and was presented a check for $35.

The entire group made a conservation tour of farms of L. Lowe at Ellison, Stanley McNulty's Fish Lake farm, G. W. Allison's farm and the Trulock farm, all north of the Arkansas river from Pine Bluff. Demonstration on soil and water conservation were given by Howard Hankins, work unit conservationist with the Jefferson County Soil Conservation district at Pine Bluff, and O. R. Holiday, head of the department of agriculture and director of the Jamboree at AM&N college.

At the luncheon, Dr. Lawrence A. Davis welcomed the group and presided as toastmaster, Edgar A. Hodson, agronomist for the Soil Conservation service in Arkansas, spoke on the subject of "What Happens to People when the Soil wears Out." Hodson illustrated his talk with colored slides made during a visit to the Holy Land.

Hollis Williams, state conservationist of the Soil Conservation servile, presented Chester Gurley, SCS employee in the Crittenden county soil district office, a certificate attesting to the work the district has done in connection with the conservation contest.

—Grice foto

MECHANIZED FARMING.—Ed Williams, center, of Marvell, Ark., believes in efficient farming and good living. He is shown fueling one of his four tractors. Looking on are County Agent Lester Hopkins, left; and District Agent T. R. Betton. He also has a mechanical cotton picker in the background is his modern, eight-room rambler.—USDA photo

Ark. Sharecropper Gets Started After 20 Years, Owns 500 Acres

MARVELL, Ark. — An Arkansas colored farmer, who sharecropped and tenant-farmed for more than 20 years before he saved up enough to buy land of his own, now has 500 acres, an 8-room rambler, and a mechanical cotton picker, reports District Agent T. R. Betton of the Arkansas State Extension Service.

The farmer is Ed Williams of Marvell, Ark., who says he and Mrs. Williams never started getting ahead until they stopped eating out of the grocery store and began raising most of their food.

"They still follow this practice," states Mr. Betton, "and out of it have developed sideline farm enterprises such as the production of poultry and eggs, hogs, beef cattle, and truck crops which bring in money throughout the year to supplement their income from cotton and soybeans."

For example, Mr. and Mrs. Williams sell around 30 dozen eggs and a few hampers of vegetables every week. Also they sell annually 20 to 30 hogs, 15 to 20 calves, and a few cows culled from their herd of 50 head.

WAS POOR SHARECROPPER

When Mr. and Mrs. Williams were married in 1926, he had been sharecropping and tenant-farming 40 acres of cotton and corn for nearly 10 years. All he had were a cow and a calf and a pair of mules. Eight years later they were still renting 40 acres, but the depression and their farm and home agents from the Extension Service had caught them to grow more of their food for themselves and their five children.

Their farm agent also had shown them the advantages of selecting an improved variety of cotton seed, applying fertilizer, and controlling boll weevils and other insects.

That was the beginning of their rise. That fall they bought another pair of mules and made arrangements to rent more land. By 1940, they had bought a tractor and were renting 140 acres.

The next year they bought their first piece of land—160 acres. Little by little they added to it until by 1952, they had 500 acres, a daughter had 230, and a son, 120.

The Williamses use modern machinery to plant, cultivate and harvest their cotton, corn, soybeans, and hay. They have four tractors and attachments, a combine, a hay baler, and a mechanical cotton picker. In addition to handling their own crops, they do custom work for neighbors, says Mr. Betton. They now have a new home completely furnished.

INSIDE NEW FARM HOME.—Mr. and Mrs. Ed Williams' eight-room rambler on their 500-acre farm near Marvell, Ark., is as modern as any city dwelling. They are shown looking over farm plans with two Arkansas Extension Service officials. Left to right are: Mr. W[illia]ms, Learrie White, farm and home development specialist; Mrs. Williams, and Mrs. Gertrude B. LeMay, home demonstration agent.—USDA photo.

It Took this Arkansas Farmer 20 Years to Get Started; Now He Has 500 Acres and A Mechanical Cotton Picker

Washington, D. C., October 2, 1957 An Arkansas colored farmer, who sharecropped and tenant-farmed for more than 20 years before he saved up enough to buy land of his own, now has 500 acres, an 8-room rambler, and a mechanical cotton picker, reports District Agent T R Betton of the Arkansas State Extension Service.

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For example, Mr and Mrs Williams sell around 30 dozen eggs and a hamper of vegetables every week. Also they sell annually 20 to 30 hogs, 15 to 20 calves, and a few cows culled from their herd of 50 head.

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Their farm agent also had shown them the advantages of selecting an improved variety of cotton seed applying fertilizer and controlling boll weevils and other insects.

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Three years ago Mr and Mrs Williams started thinking about that long dreamed of home they wanted to build. The farm agent, Lester Hopkins, and the special farm and home development agent, Learrie White, brought them plans from the State office. And the home agent, Mrs Gertrude B LeMay, brought along publications on selecting furniture, color harmony, and kitchen designs.

The Williamses looked at the home plans, then they went to Helena and Little Rock and looked at furniture and appliances. Back home, they got out their bankbook and took a long look at their savings. Finally they decided to see their dream come true.

In March of 1955, the contractor handed them the key to their 6-room rambler and they handed him a check for payment in full. A few days later the furniture trucks came.

Now in the evening when the chores are done, Mr and Mrs Williams sit in their easy chairs and look through their big picture window toward the old house in which they used to live, says Mr Betton. "Better than anything else, it tells them how far they have come."

MECHANIZED FARMING — Ed Williams, center, of Marvell, Ark., believes in efficient farming and good living. He is preparing to grease three of his four tractors and his mechanical cotton picker (not shown) while County Agent Lester Hopkins, left; and District Agent T. R. Betton look on. In the background is his modern, 8-room rambler. — (USDA Photo)

Arkansas Negro Works Up From Share-Cropper To Farm Owner

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OUTSIDE OLD FARM HOME.—Mr. and Mrs. Ed Williams, center, of Marvell, Ark., lived in this house for 15 years while they dreamed of a new one. They have it now—an eight-room rambler toward which they are looking with Mrs. Gertrude B. LeMay, their home demonstration agent; and Learrie White, state farm and home development specialist.—USDA photo.

450 Flying Farmers To Take Part In Chicago Fair

Defender Chicago Ill. 6-9
Sat 6-15-57

The Fair promises to be the most exciting exposition in the ... The natural wealth and productivity of the Midwest farm lands will be celebrated in all-day ceremonies Monday, July 8, at the Chicagoland Fair.

More than 450 Flying Farmers from all over the Midwest are scheduled to land their planes at Meigs Field to take part in the Farm Day ceremonies.

In addition to the regular entertainment spectacles on Farm Day, there will be hourly demonstrations by Illinois' 4-H club members.

The Chicagoland Fair will open June 29 at newly-decorated Navy Pier on Chicago's lakefront and will run through July 14.

"The Midwest since the Century of Progress," said Richard Reynes, director.

He predicted that almost a million visitors will thrill to water ski shows, ice shows, live radio and television broadcasts, an International Bazaar, and miles of dramatic exhibits erected by 250 of the Midwest's leading business and industrial firms.

Officials of the American Farm Bureau Federation from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan and Iowa will be special guests at the Fair.

The Fair, sponsored by the Chicago Association of Commerce and Industry, is designed to focus world attention on the Midwest as a center of trade and the agriculture and industrial progress

1b 1957

EISENHOWER FLIES TO TEXAS TO BEGIN DROUGHT SURVEY

San Angelo Is First Stop in 6-State Tour of Ravaged Farms and Ranches

CONFERENCE TOMORROW

President to Attend Wichita Talks — Special Message to Congress Expected

By W. H. LAWRENCE

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 — President Eisenhower flew west today on a campaign-promised inspection tour of the drought area. He will visit six states before midnight Tuesday.

With General Eisenhower were top-ranking officials who will urge on him new measures to meet the water shortage and alleviate the plight of farmers and ranchers.

The trip is designed to dramatize to Congress that many areas are experiencing the worst drought conditions in history and that more help is needed.

General Eisenhower left Washington in late afternoon aboard the Columbine III, the Presidential aircraft.

Other Stops Scheduled

The first scheduled stop was at San Angelo, Tex. The President will make a one-hour automobile tour there tomorrow morning to get an on-the-spot view of conditions in the state in which he was born. This area got only 37 per cent of its normal precipitation last year.

Stops also are scheduled tomorrow at West Woodward Okla.; Clovis, N. M., and Tucson Ariz. On Tuesday, the Presidential party will visit Pueblo, Colo.; Garden City, Kan., and Wichita, Kan., before flying back to Washington.

At Wichita, the President will take part in a regional conference on drought problems. There he will receive the reports of delegates from the area.

Most of the area to be visited by the President already has been certified for emergency relief. But during the campaign he promised a personal inspection tour to determine what else might be done by the Federal Government. In a sense, therefore, this will be the first campaign promise of the 1956 election to be fulfilled.

Press Aides With Him

Traveling with the President as his top advisers are two Cabinet member—Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture, and Fred A. Seaton, Secretary of the Interior.

The public relations aspect of the journey is emphasized by the presence of three men—James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary; Murray Snyder, Mr. Hagerty's assistant, and Thomas E. Stephens, who holds no formal Federal post but is the President's principal field representative for political affairs. Mr. Stephens formerly was the White House appointment secretary.

Others making the tour are: Former Representative Jack Z. Anderson, California Republican, now a White House administrative assistant for Congressional liaison; Howard Pyle, former Arizona Governor, now a White House aide for liaison with state and local governments; Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder, White House physician; Maj. Gen. J. S. Bragden, White House special assistant for public works planning; Maj. Gen. Emerson Itschner, Chief of Army Engineers.

Also Wendell B. Barnes, Administrator of the Small Business Administration; George H. Roderick, Assistant Secretary of the Army for civil functions; Kenneth L. Scott, head of the Agricultural Department's credit services; Wilburn A. Dexheimer, Commissioner of Reclamation, and Frederick H. Mueller, Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

At Garden City the President will be met by True D. Morse, Under Secretary of Agriculture, who will accompany him to the Wichita session. It will start before General Eisenhower arrives.

Special Message Expected

The probabilities are that the President's first-hand inspection trip to the drought area will lead to a special message to Congress detailing the problems of farmers and ranchers and urging alleviative measures.

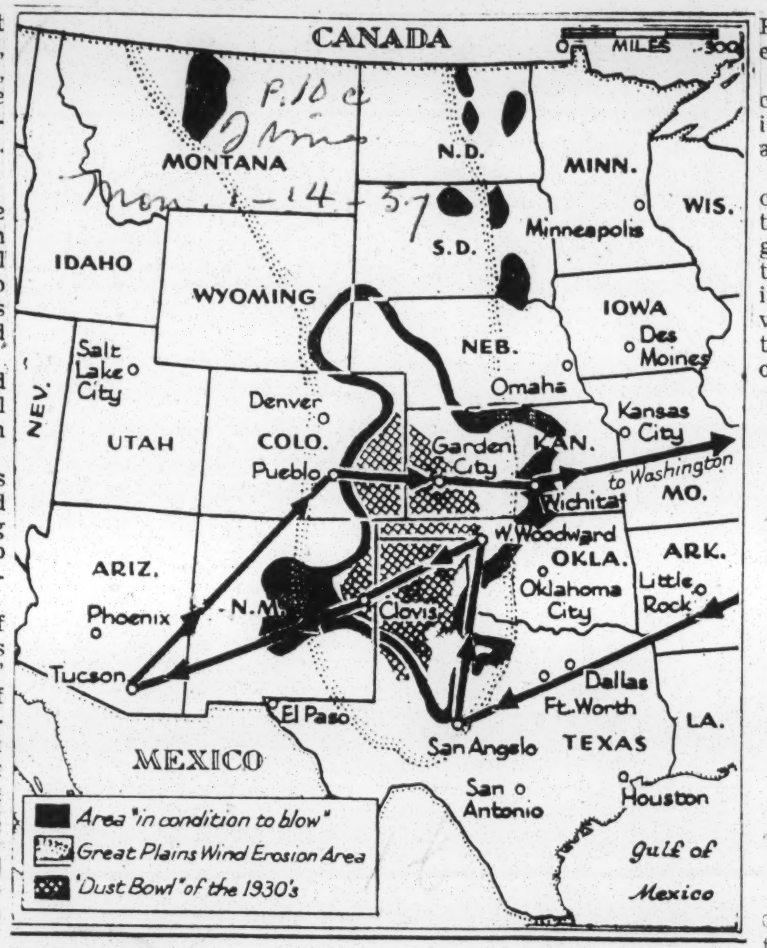
A Government booklet handed members of the Presidential party as they left Washington made these observations:

"Of the many natural forces that wage war on farmers and ranchers, the most demoralizing is prolonged drought. In its grip the individual farmer and rancher is just about helpless.

"Nearly 29,000,000 acres of land in the Great Plains states alone are 'in condition to blow,' which means that a vast area of the country is so devoid of protective plant cover that winter and spring winds can tear the topsoil loose and whip it into the air in choking dust storms * * *.

"Of the nation's approximately 3,000 counties, some 700 in fifteen states are under designation as drought emergency disaster areas."

DROUGHT SURVEY



The New York Times Jan. 14, 1957

DROUGHT TOUR: President Eisenhower's route (arrows) for his inspection tour of the drought-ravaged regions.

PLAINS AREA MAPS OWN DROUGHT AID

Farmers and Others to Meet Today on Plans to Be Laid Before the President

By DONALD JANSON

Special to The New York Times.

WICHITA, Kan., Jan. 13—The drought that has plagued parts of the Great Plains for a decade will be attacked from six directions tomorrow.

Here to explore ways of combatting the blight are 150 persons who will serve in work groups on these problems:

Emergency programs, credit needs, adjustments in use of land to conserve soil, water conservation, diversification of the rural economy and state and local action.

The report of each group will be presented to President Eisenhower when he ends his tour of drought areas here Tuesday.

Farmers and ranchers from the ten Plains states and five adjoining states will take part in the discussions. Other participants will represent agencies of the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, Commerce, Labor and Health, Education and Welfare, the Small Business Administration, the Federal Reserve Board and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Governors Sending Aides

The states will send representatives of the Governors, agricultural colleges and drought committees.

Lack of rain has become chronic in sections of the southern Great Plains. In Kansas, for example, the wheat harvest last year was 144,600,000 bushels compared with a ten-year average of 202,879,00.

Millions of acres of soil have deteriorated and are in condition to blow into dust storms in the spring.

Credit is low. Temporary jobs are not as easy to get as in the Wichita area, where up to 80 per cent of the farmers ofSedgwick County have found other employment.

True D. Morse, Under Secretary of Agriculture, who arrived from Washington late today, will conduct the conference.

He said he expected the farmers and ranches to offer in the work sessions ideas of their own and to bring in the thinking of their neighbors. Farmers from the Plains will act as chairmen of three of the six work sessions.

The Plains states are Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana and the Dakotas. The other five states to be represented are Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Missouri and Iowa.

Denver Conference Cited

The conference is similar to one held in Denver in 1955. In sequel to that meeting the Administration initiated last year a Great Plains Program to encourage good soil and water management.

Under the program the Soil Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture is making farm-by-farm surveys to classify soil by its capacities. It also is providing technical assisance to individual farmers, with the Government sharing the cost of such projects as terracing.

The program is seeking to strengthen crop use where soil is suitable for farming. Where it is not transition to grazing or idle periods is encouraged. States have been urged to support the program with legislation.

There are twenty-five other Federal farm-aid programs in effect.

In his comment on tomorrow's conference Mr. Morse said that it would "thoroughly review" all the programs, adding:

"The recommendations that come out of this conference and the President's tour will be given further study in Washington and may form the basis for improved programs to help prevent disasters and to alleviate their effects when they do occur."

Ike Touring 6-State Area Of Drought

Department Heads Study Aid Needs

By W. H. LAWRENCE

(Copyright 1957 by The New York Times Co.)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13—President Eisenhower flew west late today on a personal, campaign-promised drought inspection tour that will take him into six states before Tuesday midnight.

Aboard the Columbine III, the presidential aircraft, with Eisenhower, were top ranking officials of several departments who will urge on him new measures to meet the water shortage and alleviate the plight of farmers and ranchers.

The trip was designed to dramatize to the Congress that many of these areas were undergoing the worst drought conditions in history and that the people of the area badly needed more help than they were getting.

Leaving Washington in late afternoon, the presidential aircraft reached the drought stricken area too late today to allow any visibility of the parched plains. The first stop tonight was at San Angelo, Tex., where the President tomorrow morning will make a one-hour automobile tour to get an on-the-spot view of conditions in the state in which he was born. This immediate area got only 37 per cent of its normal precipitation last year and the need for relief and alleviative measures is great.

Stops also are scheduled to-

morrow at West Woodward, Okla., Clovis, N.M., and Tucson, Ariz. On Tuesday, the presidential party will visit Pueblo, Colo., Garden City, Kans., and Wichita, Kans., before flying back to Washington. At Wichita, the President will take part in a full-scale regional conference on drought problems receiving the reports of delegates from the area and giving them his response.

Most of the area visited by the President already has been certified for drought emergency relief treatment, but during the campaign he promised a personal inspection tour to determine what else might be done by the federal government. In a sense, therefore, this is the first campaign promise of the 1956 election to be fulfilled even before the second term inaugural.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Traveling with the President as his top flight advisers were two cabinet members—Ezra Taft Benson, the secretary of agriculture, and Fred A. Seaton, the secretary of the interior.

The public relations aspect of the journey was emphasized by the presence of three men—James C. Hagerty, the White House press secretary; Murray Snyder, Hagerty's assistant; and Thomas E. Stephens, who holds no formal federal post but is the President's principal field representative for political affairs. Stephens formerly was the White House appointment secretary.

These others were aboard the aircraft: former Rep. Jack Z. Anderson, (R-Calif) now a White House administrative assistant for congressional liaison; Howard Pyle, former Arizona governor, now a White House aide for liaison with state and local governments; Maj. Gen. Howard McC. Snyder, White House physician; Maj. J. S. Bragden, White House special assistant for public works planning; Maj. Gen. Emerson Itschner, chief of army engineers; Wendell Barnes, administrator of the Small Business Administration; George H. Roderick, assistant secretary of the Army for Civil Functions; Kenneth Scott, head of the Agricultural Department's credit services; Wilburn A. Dexheimer, Commission of Reclamtion; and Fritz Mueller, assistant secretary of commerce.

At Garden City, the President will be met by True D. Morse, undersecretary of agriculture, who will accompany him to the Wichita session which will have been in progress for sometime before Eisenhower arrives.

The probabilities are that the President's first-hand inspection trip to the drought are will lead to a special message to the Congress spelling out in details the problems of farmers and ranchers and urging alleviative measures to help them meet this challenge.

A government-prepared booklet handed members of the presidential party as they left Washington made these observations:

"Of the many natural forces that wage war on farmers and ranchers, the most demoralizing is prolonged drought. In its grap the individual farmer and rancher is just about helpless.

"Nearly 29,000,000 acres of land in the Great Plains states alone are 'in condition to blow,' which means that a vast area of the country is so devoid of protective plant cover that winter and spring winds can tear the topsoil loose and whip it into the air in choking dust storms. . . .

"Of the nation's approximately 3,000 counties, some 700 in 15 states are under designation as drought emergency disaster areas."

1b 1957

J. A. Amaker quits job as farm agent

Afro-American Sat. 4-6-57

Baltimore Md.

By JOHN H. McCRAY

CHARLESTON, S.C. — Julius A. Amaker, county farm agent here for 13 years, has resigned from his post to go into business.

The fiery agriculture specialist told the AFRO that he tendered his resignation March 11 and had officially entered the service station business as of March 27.

"I resigned rather than accept an inferior position in the Extension Service," Mr. Amaker said.

* * *

HE EXPLAINED that the Service, operated by Clemson College, had offered him a similar position in York County. Earlier he had rejected a like post in Union county.

George B. Nutt of the Clemson headquarters wrote Mr. Amaker on March 19 that his resignation was being processed. Nutt also stated:

"On behalf of the Extension Service I wish to thank you for your contribution to the farm people of Charleston County, and wish you success for the future."

* * *

BOOKER T. McINTOSH, formerly county agent at Union, has been transferred to Charleston, but is currently facing a general bitterness and resistance among county farmers who, in February, issued a statement pledging themselves against accepting or cooperating with Mr. Amaker's successor.

McIntosh himself attended a January meeting in Orangeburg at which county home and farm agents released a statement supporting Amaker and pledging not to accept his office if offered.

However McIntosh reportedly did not sign the statement. An announcement from Union County later reported him as having promised county officials he would remain in Union.

* * *

MR. AMAKER blamed the furor around his former office on activity of the White Citizens Council, certain farm-lending concerns and the fact that he held seniority over his white counterpart.

"It is inexplainable to me," he said, "that any other agent would come to Charleston under the present conditions."

The "Amaker affair" exploded out last December. He was to be transferred to Union County, his moving expenses paid and salary boosted "for the good of the service."

* * *

DURING THE peak of the verbal battle, he was issued a 30 day leave, which elapsed Feb. 28, "pending negotiations."

Community support heavily favored Mr. Amaker who, backers said greatly increased the number of colored farm owners, as well as increased the quality and quantity of farm products.

No extension officer, he said, had ever given a valid reason for transferring him. There were no complaints filed against his service, he added.

* * *

THUS FAR, county farmers appear to be making good their promise to accept no agent other than Mr. Amaker.

"I am just as busy now giving free advice and service to them as before I resigned," Amaker told the AFRO. He says he plans to continue free counsel.

The last two weeks, he said, he had volunteered help involving the planting of more than 100 acres of tomatoes, 100 acres of cucumbers and assisted in the handling of livestock

Advertiser Mon. 4-8-57 Montgomery, Ala. p 3

DIRECT COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

Tallapoosa County's Staff of Negro Extension Service workers are pictured in front of the community center building here which houses their offices. Left to right are Miss Maxine Ford, community center librarian; Miss D. M. Veasley, Negro home demonstration agent; W. L. Royston, Negro county agent.

Tallapoosa Extension Unit Reports Excellent Progress

Advertiser Mon. 4-8-57 Montgomery Ala. p 3

DADEVILLE, Ala., April 7—According to historical data released by Tallapoosa County Extension Service workers, Tallapoosa County is one of the pioneer counties in Negro Extension work. The late D. D. Crawford was one of the first Negro county agents in the county. He served as Negro county agent of Tallapoosa County until he retired about 15 years ago.

The present Negro agents in the county are Miss D. M. Veasley, Negro Home Demonstration agent who has served almost two years in the county. She came from Auburn. She taught home economics for two years in Wilcox County at the Miller's Ferry High School before coming to Tallapoosa County. Miss Veasley is a graduate of Alabama A&M College at Normal.

W. L. Royston, the present Negro county agent, is a graduate of Alabama A&M Institution at Normal, and majored in Agricultural Education. Royston has been working in Tallapoosa County almost 12 years and served previously as a teacher in the Clarke County Training School, Randolph County Training School, Wheadkee Junior High in Randolph County and two years as Negro County agent at Eutaw, Ala., in Greene County. He came from Roanoke, Ala., is married, his wife teaches in the Tallapoosa County school system, has one son, a junior at Talladega College, Dean of the East Alabama Sunday School and BTU Congress, a Mason, a Royal Arch Mason and a 32nd degree Mason.

At the present time there are 545 Negro farm families in Tallapoosa County, 450 4-H girls, 326 4-H boys, 10 4-H Clubs and 11 adult clubs to help promote the Tallapoosa County extension program.

The Negro county and home agent's office is located in the Community Center building which consists of office space for the Jeanes teacher, Negro County Agent, Home Agent and demonstration kitchen which is equipped with an electric stove, electric refrigerator, double sink, hot water heater, built-in cabinets, electric sewing machine and cooking utensils for all demonstration purposes.

In the building is located a library which is open five days a week — Monday through Friday. Books may be taken for one week by checking them out at the desk. If a book is kept for more than a week, there is a penalty charge of one penny each day the book is kept over time. The adults as well as the children check out books each day from the library. The book service is supplied by the Lee-Tallapoosa County Bookmobile Library at Dadeville.

The library consists of the following books: One volume of Britannica, one volume of New Master Pictorial Encyclopedia, one atlas of the world, 848 novels, fictions and children's story books.

Miss Maxine Ford who is a graduate of the Tallapoosa County training school is the librarian and she also assists the agents in getting out letters and other work. The library reading room seats about 30 people.

The building has a rest room for ladies and an auditorium which is equipped with steel chairs and will seat 250 people In the two halls there are boo racks, bulletin boards and a drinking fountain.

Each agent's off is well equipped with desk, airs, typewriters, steel files, ele ric adding machines, two tele ones and electric fans.

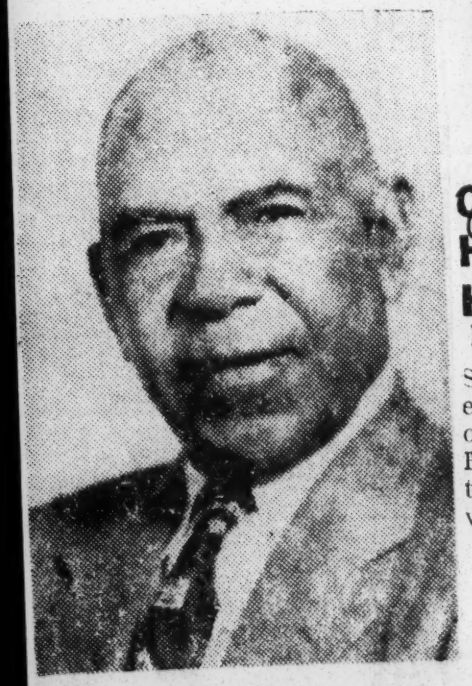
HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS TO HEAR STONE AND DAVIS

P. H. Stone of Washington, D. C. and P. O. Davis of Auburn, Ala. are scheduled to address the 17th annual session of the Association of Alabama Negro County and Home Demonstration Agents set for May 9-11 at the A. G. Gaston Motel.

Mr. Stone of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is scheduled to address the banquet session at 8 o'clock Thursday night, May 9 at the A. G. Gaston Restaurant. At this time county and home agents with 10, 20, 30 and more years of service in extension work will be honored.

W. B. Hill of Tuskegee Institute, Ala., state leader of Extension Service, is scheduled to present the service pins and certificates.

Coleman Thornton will sing a solo with A. H. Felder accompanying. Mrs. Nona W. Powell, principal of Hooper City High School, will sound the welcome greetings.



P. H. STONE

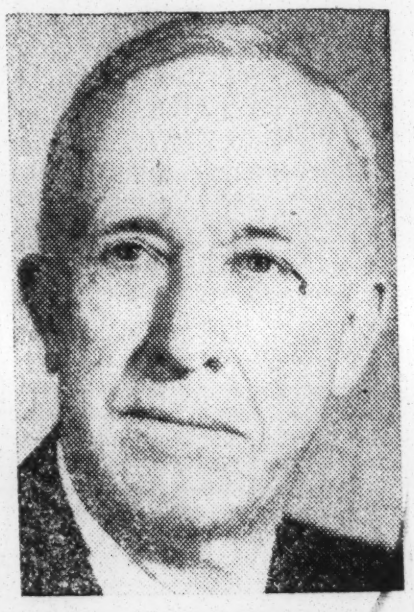
Lawerence C. Johnson, eighth president of the association, will give remarks.

Mr. Davis, director of Alabama Extension Service is scheduled to address the 11 o'clock session Friday morning, May 10. His speech is expected to be plans and progress report on the state of farm welfare.

The association members will be dinner guests at the State Vocational and Trade School at noon Friday. A social affair will be held for the group on Friday night at the Madison Nite Spot.

The final business session is scheduled from 9 a. m. until noon Saturday.

And estimated 100 will attend the meeting which the Jefferson County farm agents, Perry L. White and Mrs. Ruby Jacobs Robinson are serving as host.



P. O. DAVIS

C. D. Scott II Heads Alabama Home Agents

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — C. D. Scott II of Selma, Ala., was elected president of the Association of Alabama Negro County and Home Demonstration agents at the conclusion of a three-day convention here.

County, Home, Agents To Meet

Election of officers will hold the spotlight at the business session of the three-day meeting of the Association of Alabama Negro County and Home Demonstration Agents at Smith & Gaston Chapel at 8:30 Saturday morning with Lawerence C. Johnson, of Marion, Ala. president, expected to step down.

Lawerence C. Johnson

Mr. Johnson, agent in Perry County, is the eighth person to pilot this organization. He is rounding out his third year as head of the farmer-assisting organization.

P. O. Davis, of Auburn, Ala., director of the Alabama Extension Service, was scheduled to address the group at the 9 a. m. session this Friday, May 10.

A dinner meeting was slated for the State Trade and Vocational School. A tour which included Vulcan Park was set for 3:30 p. m. Friday. A social courtesy at Madison Nite Spot would round out the Friday activities.

The association opened its convention Thursday with registration at the Gaston Motel.

P. H. Stone, of Washington, D. C. representing the Department of Agriculture, was scheduled to speak Thursday night at the banquet session held at the Gaston Restaurant.

The meeting attracted an estimated 100 farm-service leaders.

Percy L. White and Mrs. Ruby Jacobs Robinson, Jeffferson County agricultural-service agents are serving as host to the meeting.

Demonstration Here Saturday

S. C. Home Agents Visit Home Economics Institute

WASHINGTON, D. C. — As a means of gaining more first-hand information on some of the latest U. S. Department of Agriculture research in nutrition, clothing, and household equipment for use in their work with rural families, the 41 colored home agents and supervisors of the South Carolina Extension Service recently visited divisions of the USDA Institute of Home Economics at Beltsville, Md.

Heading up the group were Mrs. Marian B. Paul, State supervisor of home demonstration work in South Carolina with headquarters at State College, Orangeburg; Mrs. Willie P. Washington, assistant supervisor; and Miss Sara K. Aiken, girls 4-H club agent.

* * *

AT BELTSVILLE the agents studied the energy-saving kitchen in detail: the wall refrigerator, the wall oven, floor-to-ceiling corner cabinet with revolving shelves, shelved closet doors providing convenient space for canned foods, dining area, and the arrangement for sitting to wash dishes or to mix ingredients for a cake.

Mrs. Zelta Rodenwold, home economist, who showed the agents through the kitchen, also explained the work of the entire institute, including that in nutrition and household management.

* * *

DURING THE session of clothing and textiles, Miss Margaret Smith, clothing specialist, displayed a rack of garments made of some of the newer fabrics, such as orlon, dacron, acrilan, and dynel and discussed methods of construction, as well as that of maintenance and care of the garments. Miss Smith gave each agent a copy of her latest USDA bulletin, "Clothing Fabrics--Facts for Consumer Education."

Before going to nearby Beltsville, the agents conferred with members of the Federal Extension Service staff, including Administrator Clarence M. Ferguson, Miss Frances Scudder, director of home economics programs; and P. H. Stone, assistant to the Assistant Administrator.

* * *

AMONG THOSE sitting in on the conference were Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell, director of home economics at Howard University; Miss Roberta Church, chief minority group consultant of the Department of Labor Mrs. Mildred Bunton, head dietitian, Freedmen's Hospital Mrs. Virginia Thomas, research assistant in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and Sherman Briscoe, USDA information specialist.

Later, the home agents conferred with Administrator Kermit H. Hansen of the Farmers Home Administration and members of his staff, including Mrs. Lottie M. Randolph and L. J. Washington.

* * *

DURING A sightseeing tour, the agents visited the White House, the Capitol, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the Lincoln Memorial A list of the agents follows:

Mrs. Leona W. Bing, Miss Hestella Broadwater, Mrs. Lillian W. Brown, Mrs. Annie Mae Butler, Mrs. Cammie F. Clagett, Miss Albertha DeVeaux, Mrs. Edna K. DuPree, Mrs. Rosa G. Gadson, Mrs. Frankie Gibbs, Mrs. Gussie Goudlock, Mrs. Madge W. Hardy, Miss Lonieal L. Harrison, Mrs. Bernice P. House.

* * *

ALSO MRS. Lillie Mae Jamerson, Mrs. Annie J. Johnson, Miss Naomi B. Johnson, Mrs. Wilhelmina P. Johnson, Mrs. Eva G. Lawrence, Mrs. Lillian G. Saunders, Lillian Lee, Mrs. Hattie P Mrs. Willie B. Simpson, Mrs. Lowery, Miss Goldie McDuffie, Johnnie G. Sloan, Miss Miss Nettie F. Miles, Mrs. Queenie H. Smith, Mrs. Adell Cornelia W. Mills, Mrs. Rosa W. Watson, Mrs. Laura J. R. Odom, Mrs. Alice G. Os- Whitney, Mrs. Cynthia Williford and Mrs. Effie H. Wimborne.

And Mrs. Altamese B. berly. Pough, Miss Ivora Price, Miss Martha O. Reid, Mrs. Iola D. Richer, Mrs. Gertrude San-

Sunday Program To Honor Montgomery County Agent

Advertiser Thurs. 6-27-57
Montgomery Ala.

A special program honoring J. T. Alexander, who has served contiouously for 31 years as Montgomery County farm agent, will be held Sunday, June 30, at 3:30 p.m. at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church. County Agent Alexander will retire at the end of this month.

Alexander is a native of Tishomingo, Miss., and prior to becoming agent of Montgomery County, he attended the North Alabama Baptist Academy at Courtland, Ala. served as first sergeant in the 365th Infantry and was also commissioned as a lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps, during World War I, and attended Hampton Institute, where he made an outstanding scholastic, military (ROTC) and athletic record. He was graduated from Hampton in May 1926 and was appointed county agent in Montgomery County, July 1926.

HELPS HUNDREDS

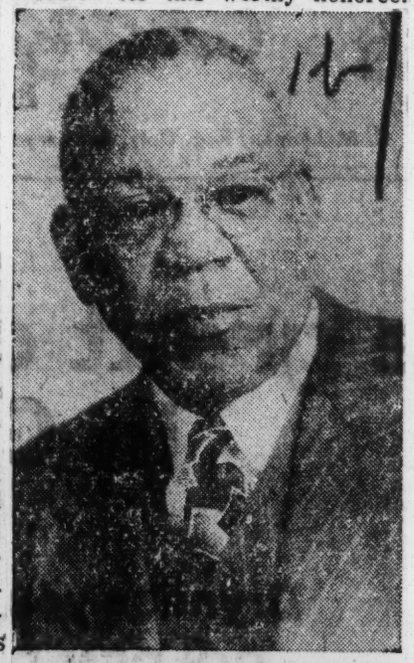
Alexander has stressed better living for rural residents and has taught hundreds how to conserve soil, breed better livestock, improve crops through correct fertilization, improve their homes, and safeguard health through proper sanitation. Methods taught have helped raise both economic and educational levels.

One project which was launched and carried by this individual and deserves mention, because of its magnitude, is the Community Center. This project was launched several years ago to provide a resting place for weary shoppers whether city or rural. The movement culminated in a drive that netted $10,000. This property at present consists of a two-story building and parking lot for downtown shoppers.

This program honoring the county agent is being sponsored by the following committeemen: Prof. O. L. Pinkston, principal of the Georgia Washington High School, Mt. Meigs; Miss A. M. Boynton, and Robert F. Jones, Home Demonstration agent and assistant county agent, respectively, are serving as co-chairmen. Other officrs are: Mrs. Rosa Johnson, president of the Montgomery County P-TA; and C. R. Williams, manager of the Pilgrim Life Insurance Company, treasurer. C. W. Lee, proprietor of the Lee's Funeral Home is co-ordinator of the county and city leaders and O. C. Crowe, retired farmer and businessman was appointed as captain.

The committee has prepared a program that will feature the principle address by W. B. Hill, state leader for Negro work, Tuskegee Institute.

Following the program will be a reception for the honoree. Friends and co-workers will have the opportunity to greet Agent Alexander. The public is invited to come out and make this a great occasion for this worthy honoree.



J. T. ALEXANDER

Montgomery Count Farm Demonstration Agent, J. T. Alexander (above), will be honored Sunday afternoon at 3:30 at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church for 31 years of service to the county.

C. A. Ogletree Named Negro Agent of '57

Constitution Wed. 7-31-57
Atlanta, Ga.
Constitution State News Service

JACKSON, July 30 — C. A. Ogletree, Negro county agent for Butts County since 1951, has been named Negro County Agent of the year for 1957 in the state of Georgia.

The award was based on the agent's county program, public relations and over-all efficiency in his work, officials said.

Negro families in Butts County have made tremendous strides in agriculture within the past few years and a great deal of this progress is due Ogletree for his work among them, the announcement added.

Born on a farm near West Point, Ga., Ogletree for three years taught a class in vocational agriculture before joining the Extension Service six years ago. He is a graduate of Savannah State College with a B.S. degree in agriculture.

This Is Your Life, J D Roland

Harrison County (Marshall) Extension Agent F D Roland, seated at right, is honored by the extension agen's of Texas in an achievement program which brought scores of witnesses attesting to his fine role in public service. The "agent" will retire soon after 31 years of service in Marshall.

Pictured with him, seated: Two daughters, Mrs Henry Armstrong and Mrs Vincent Gaines, Mrs Roland; standing: Vincent Gaines, Henry Armstrong, holding son; Vernon Williams and Harvel Grant, master of ceremonies. Grandchildren are seated in front.

Sixth Annual Nat'l Agriculture Agents Conf. To Be Held At Southern University

Agents From 17 States To Attend

Baton Rouge, La., July 8.—Negro County Agents from 17 states will hold their Sixth Annual National Agriculture Agents Conference at Southern University, July 28-31, it has been announced by the organization's President, B. D. Harrison, Shreveport, La.

Harrison, in his announcement stated that among the speakers, who will take part in the sessions will be: The Honorable Earl K Long, governor of Louisiana; True D. Morse, Undersecretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; and Dr. F. G. Clark, president, Southern University at Baton Rouge, La.

Other than the academic activities scheduled for the three-day conference, the Louisiana agents have planned an old fashioned barbecue, receptions and tours for the incoming group.

While in the fastest growing Chemical Center in the world, The Greater Baton Rouge, the agents will get a quick look at the giant Esso Standard Oil operations, which adjoin the Southern University campus.

President Harrison stated that of particular significance will be a symposium, which has been scheduled for the Tuesday morning session.

Participants in the discussion of "What is the Role of the County Extension Agent in a Changing Agriculture Economy," will be: P. H. Stone, assistant to the Assistant Administrator Federal Extension Service, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Ivan E. Miles, agronomist, Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation, Jackson, Miss.; and C. A. Sheffield, field agent, Southern States Federal Extension Service, Washington, D. C. Dr. Hezekiah Jackson, director, Division of Agriculture, Southern University, will serve as moderator.

Over-all consultants were named as: Antoine H. Fuhr, information specialist, Farm Credit Administration, Washington, D. C.; L. J. Jones, field representative, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.; and L. J. Washington, agriculturist, Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture Washington, D. C.

Home Agent

Mrs. Cleopatra W. Robinson is Princess Anne County's first Negro Home Demonstration agent. She will assist farm families with such problems as financial management, nutrition, child care and other problems related to family living.

Rosa J. Parker House to Be Half-Time Home Demonstration Agent For Logan and Oklahoma Counties

The State Extension Service and county commissioners of Logan and Oklahoma counties approved and have assigned Mrs. Rosa J. Parker House to work Logan and Oklahoma counties giving half-time to each, as of August 1, 1957. Offices will be located in Guthrie and Luther.

Mrs. Rosa J. Parker House was appointed as home demonstration agent in Logan county, September 1, 1935. Before coming to Logan county, she taught home economics in Boley high school and was a 4-H leader there for four years. She was formerly a 4-H girl and won a trip to Tuskegee, Alabama from Okfuskee county in 1927, in her clothing project and won first place there and was awarded a Singer Machine.

Mrs. House received a B. S. degree in home economics from Kansas State Teachers college, Pittsburg, Kansas in 1935, had special work at Langston university, Langston, Okla.; graduate work in extension at Tuskegee institute, Tuskegee, Ala., A&M college, Fort Collins, Colo.; Cornell university, Ithaca, N. Y., and Prairie View A&M college, Prairie View, Texas.

In 1955 she was chosen from Oklahoma to receive a scholarship from Sears-Roebuck and Co. through the National 4-H Foundation of America, Inc., Silver Springs, Md., to study in the National Human Development workshop for six weeks.

During the past 22 years home demonstration and 4-H clubs have participated in various activities which raised the standards of living in their homes and communities in Logan county.

R. E. Lee Long Time County Agent Retires

Mr. Robert E. Lee, long time County Agent, well known Jackson resident who resides at Montgomery street with his wife, Mrs. Daisy Parker Lee, a teacher in the City Public School System, recently announced his retirement from the service after working for a period of 25 years.

From 1932 to 1943 Mr. Lee served as County Agent of Rankin County.

From 1943 to 1946 he was in the United States Army with combat duty in Europe.

Returning from military duty he returned to his former position as County Agent of Rankin County and was later transferred to Sunflower County where he served until his recent retirement.

Mr. Lee attended public school in Rankin County, high school at Utica Institute and Piney Woods School from where he graduated. His college work was at Alcorn A. and M. where he received the BS Degree in agriculture. He also did graduate study at Tuskegee and Hampton Institute.

During the period of his service Mr. Lee won the lasting appreciation and respect of the people with whom he worked. His work touched the lives of many farm families who obtained from him the knowledge and information leading to great improvement in their standard of living.

His work also touched and influenced the lives of some 6000 4-H Club boys and girls in the state to whom he gave the inspiration and information that helped them to reach the highest standards of that great organization.

Five Negro Agents Appointed Under Rural Dev. Program

Five colored farm and home agents have been added to county extension staffs in three states to help achieve the objectives of the Rural Development Program.

The new agents have been placed in Meriwether County, Ga.; Covington and Holmes Counties, Miss.; and Berkeley County, S. C. Two agents have been assigned to the latter—a farm and a home agent.

Rural Development programs are underway in 49 pilot counties and eight areas in a total of 24 states. Most of the counties are said to have serious low farm income problems.

Rural Development committee members and agricultural workers in the pilot counties are trying to improve the farm income in various ways. For example, in Covington County, Miss., farmers are being encouraged to join a cooperative farmers' market in order to have a better outlet for their truck crops; in Choctaw County, Okla.; the emphasis being placed on vocational traning in industrial arts; and in Fayette County, Ala., an attempt is being made to improve poultry production and develop a market for commercial and hatching eggs.

The main objective of the Rural Development Program is to mobilize private organizations, farm business, and civic leaders, and government agencies in a cooperative effort to promote balanced economic growth in rural areas with substantial numbers of underemployed people—both farm and non-farm families.

USDA officials say progress will come in part through better farming, but education and vocational training, improvement of health and personal security, information on job opportunities off the farm are also essential.

Negro Girls Assistant 4-H Club Agent Gets $2,800 Scholarship

State College, Miss.—Esther W. Reed, Negro assistant girls' 4-H Club agent of the Agricultural Extension Service with headquarters at Jackson, has received a $2,800 scholarship from the Fund for Adult Education.

She will use this assistance to attend Cornell University during the coming academic year. There she plans to complete the requirements for an M.A. degree in the field of rural sociology and extension education.

The agent, a native of Mt. Olive, has served in the Extension Service in Mississippi for 12½ years. Before beginning her present duties in October, 1955, she served in Tallahatchie and Clarke Counties. She taught in public school in Covington County for a year.

Her training includes a B.A. degree from Mississippi Industrial College, plus several summers of graduate study.

Carolina home agents visit nation's capital

AIKEN, S.C.—Miss Lonieal Harrison, home demonstration agent of Aiken County, recently made a two-day educational tour of Washington (D.C.) with 40 other state home demonstration workers.

At the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the visitors conferred with staffs of the Federal Extension Service and the Farmers' Home Administration, observing some of the research being done in nutrition, household economics, clothing and housing.

tension ... tires After 55 Years As Agent, Teacher

A Florida colored agricultural extension worker retired last week after 55 years of service as a farm demonstration agent and a school teacher in the State, reports J. A. Gresham, district agent of the Florida Extension Service.

The retired agent is Miles E. Groover of Monticello, Fla., first colored extension worker to be appointed in the State. He first became a county agent in 1917, but later returned to teaching for seven more years before making extension work his career.

As a county agent of Jefferson County, Mr. Groover helped the farmers of the county to organize a cooperative through which they sell some of their farm products, and buy most of their equipment and supplies. He has also encouraged scores of them to buy land of their own. Over the years, he has set the example by buying farm land himself. Today, he and Mrs. Groover own more than 400 acres.

Even as a boy, operating a tenant farm in partnership with his grandmother by day and studying at night to qualify himself to be a teacher, he began to put aside a little each year from the crops toward a farm of his own. Within nine years, he and his grandmother bought 90 acres.

Mr. Groover became a teacher in 1902 and remained with the public schools until 1924, except for a few months in 1917 when he served as a wartime farm production agent.

Following his retirement, after 33 years with the Florida Extension Service, his fellow workers gave a testimonial reception for him last Sunday at his church in Monticello. In paying tribute to him, both Mr. Gresham and Miss Floy Britt, district home agent, emphasized that Mr. Groover taught by example. "He never told a farmer to do what he wasn't doing on his own land," Mr. Gresham pointed out.

Mr. and Mrs. Groover plan to spend their years of retirement in their Monticello home where they have lived most of their 40 years together. They have one daughter, Mrs. Doris G. Herring, a graduate of Florida A. & M. University and a teacher in the State.

Advertiser 4-6
Wed. 4-10-57
Montgomery, Ala.
6b
Extension

COUNTY LIBRARY OFFERS NEEDED SERVICE

Reading good books is one of the best ways to spend leisure time. Librarian Maxine Ford (standing) looks on as a group of students enjoy reading periodicals in the Community Center Library. The library is under the direction of the Negro Extension Service of Tallapoosa County.

Advertiser
Wed. 4-10-57
Montgomery, Ala.
P. 4-B

DEMONSTRATING CORN MEAL MUFFINS

Corn Meal Muffins are everybody's favorite. Miss D. M. Veasley, Negro Home Demonstration Agent of Tallapoosa County, is shown demonstrating to a group of 4-H Girls how to make good corn meal muffins in the demonstration kitchen of the Community Center building.

Ga. Homemakers In Demonstration Wk.

Daily World P.3
Sat. 3-4-37

More than 12,000 Georgia colored homemakers took part in National Home Demonstration Week, April 28 to May 4 reports Mrs. Doris T. Owes, assistant State agent of the Georgia Extention Service.

The Program and events, says Mrs. Owes, were all designed to take a second look at the progress being made in homemaking activities in the State.

The 1956 records show that the 39 colored home agents in the State, assisted byassisted by 6,764 volunteer community leaders, gave some guidance to 510 familites in planning the construction of homes, and 2,630 in repairing or remodeling their homes.

Also the agents and leaders assisted 19,647 in planning and producing and adequate home food supply and 10,644 in improving their diets.

Mrs. Owes says the philosophy of Extension work is to help people themselves to achieve personal well-being.

Organize Negro National Home DA Association

State Press
Fri. 3-12-37
Little Rock, Ark.
P. 6

JACKSON, Miss.—A new national organization of professional agricultural workers, the Negro National Home Demonstration Agents, association, was established here recently.

Three southern states, represented by thirty-three agents attended the organizational meeting in the College Park community house adjacent to Jackson college.

Among Arkansans participating in the organization, and elected as officers, were Mrs. Margaret Williams, El Dorado, 2nd vice president; Miss Carreather Banks, Forrest City, secretary; Mrs. Iola Rhone, Texarkana parliamentarian and Mrs. Jennie B. Wright, Lake Village, chaplain.

The purpose, of the Association will be professional improvement through organized projects, and by the annual meeting for exchanging ideas among agents from the several states.

Farm Agent 55 Years. Retires

Defender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 4-27-37
P. 12

WASHINGTON — A Florida agricultural extension worker has retired after 55 years of service as a farm demonstration agent and a school teacher in the State, reports J. A. Gresham, district agent of the Florida Extension Service.

The retired agent is Miles E. Groover of Monticello, Fla., first colored extension worker to be appointed in the State. He first became a county agent in 1917, but later returned to teaching for seven more years before making extension work his career.

HELPED FARMERS

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SCHOOL TEACHER

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Mr. and Mrs. Groover plan to spend their years of retirement in their Monticello home where they have lived most of their 40 years together. They have one daughter, Mrs. Doris G. Herring, a graduate of Florida A and M university and a teacher in the state.

NEW STAFFERS — Several new members have been added recently to the growing A&T College Extension Service. R. E. Jones, State Agent, left, goes over a few points with the new additions. They are from left to right, front: Miss Joan Mitchell, secretary; Miss Grace Grant, secretary; Mrs. Frances Corbett, district home agent and H. M. McNeil, district farm agent. At rear are: Mrs. Anna B. Hunter, assistant 4-H Club leader and Mrs. Josephine S. Weaver, district home agent.

1957 Will Test Skill, Ingenuity Of Farmers, Says Ag Officials

WASHINGTON D.C. — The skill and ingenuity of Negro farmers, like that of many other small farm operators of the Nation, will further be tested in 1957, says P. H. Stone, an administrative official of the Federal Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Last year was somewhat better than 1955 for most of these farmers, Mr Stone points out, largely because of their increased skill in farming and farm management practices. But, he adds,, more intensive effort will be required in '57.

Acreage Allotments an Off Set

Counting heavily on cotton and tobacco as their main cash crops, most of the country's 462,000 Negro farmers are affected by acreage allotments and marketing quotas on these crops, Mr Stone says.

Ad although cotton acreage allotments have been eased by about 200,000 acres to aid small operators this advantage could be offset for some who do outside farm work for big planters, the Extension official explains, by the increased participation of large farmers in the Soil Bank.

And flue-cured tobacco farmers, he adds, are in a tighter spot this year with acreage allotments cut by 20 per cent, or from 337,600 cres to 712,600. He says one southwest Virginia tobacco grower complained that he didn't know what he was going to do. Said that in the past he had always been able to make up the acreage cuts by putting into effect improvements in his production and handling methods, but thinks he has done all he can in this direction.

However, Mr Ston, says that most of the farmers he has visited throughout the South seem to be in good spirits. "They are expecting prices for their products to hold up in '57." And he thinks that with the number of Negro farmers declining at the rate of more than 20,000 annually, the 900 Negro Extension workers will be able to work more intensively with some of the families.

The Extension official says a number of farmers may need to supplement their income by further diversifying their farms, or by finding more outside farm and nonfarm employment.

More Farmers To Get Loans

L. J. Washington, agriculturist of the Farmers Home Administration, says recent legislation will enable his agency to make loans to more farmers who are unable to obtain adequate credit elsewhere For example, he points out that part-time farmers may now obtain loans from Farmers Home for operating and developing farms.

A. H. Fuhr, information speecialist of the Farm Credit Administraton, says his agency continues to stand ready to assist farmers on a sound basis with their credit problem through the Production Credit Association and the Land Bank.

Another assist for small farmers is the Rural Development Program through which new ways of attacking low-income farm problems are being developed. Forty-six counties and eight trade areas in 24 States are now taking part in this program.

But Mr Stone thinks that the principal means by which small farmers will hold their own or advance during '57 will be through their skill and ingenuity in diversifying their farms, improving their farming practices, and in finding nonfarm employment. He says Extension farm and nome demonstration agents have helped farm families to a good start in this direction.

Hint farm agent hit by reprisal

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The transfer of County Farm Agent Julius A. Amaker from his 13 year old post to a similar position in smaller Union county, along with all moving expenses paid and a hike in salary has created a furor in civic and governmental circles.

Mr. Amaker, 48, who holds a service seniority over the county's white farm agent, said Monday he understood he was being transferred because of alleged membership in the NAACP.

He denied having such a membership.

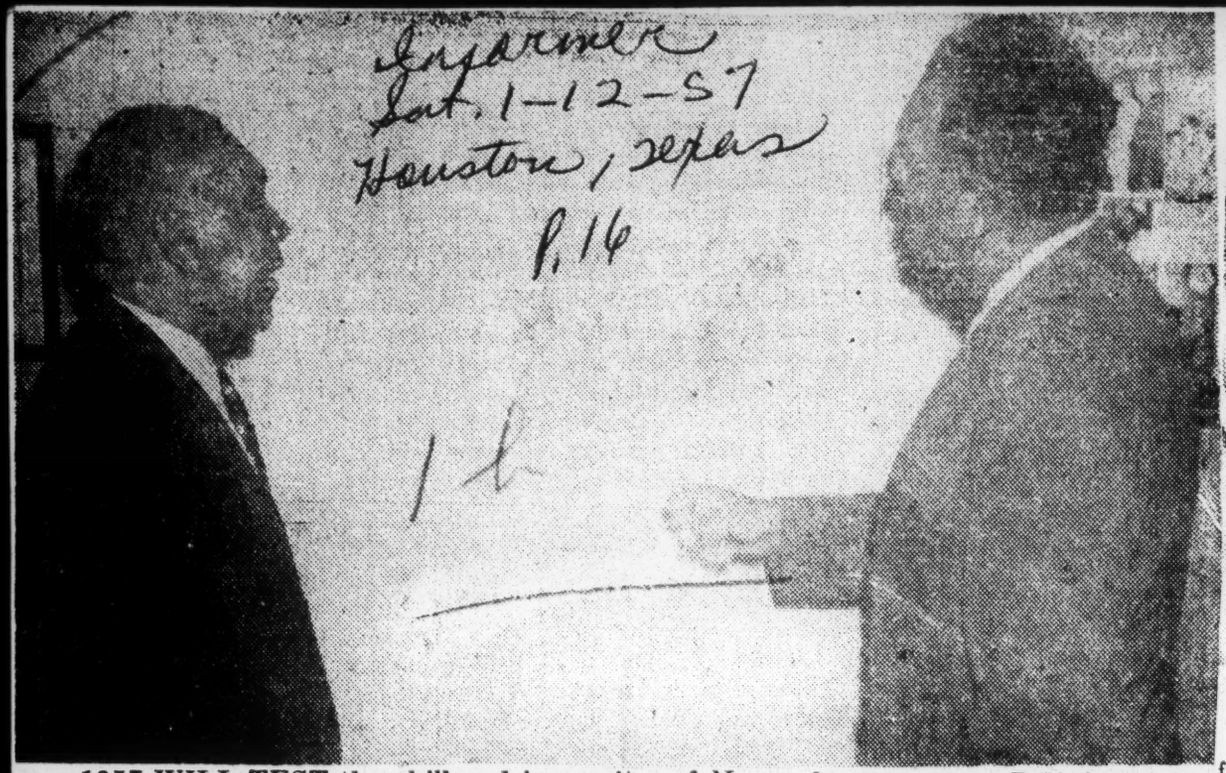
District Extension Agent J. T. Lazar, white, replied however, that the NAACP angle does not figure in the case. Nevertheless the row is scheduled to reach Federal authorities in Washington.

* * *

MR. LAZAR said that it is customary for the Extension Service, operated out of Clemson College, white, and with the aid of Federal funds, to transfer agents from time to time on the basis of their ability and the needs of the area to which they are transferred.

Highly regarded throughout the county, Mr. Amaker is credited with a number of unusual accomplishments in his office here.

Civic leaders and friends of the S.C. State College graduate say the transfer may have been demanded by the White Citizens Council, largely because of the pro-integration views of the county's farmfolk.



1957 WILL TEST the skill and ingenuity of Negro farmers, says P H Stone, left, assistant Administrator of the Federal Extension Service. He and L J Washington, agriculturist of the Farmers Home Administration, are discussing some of the problems of Negro farmers as they look at a map of the United States which shows the area in which most of them are concentrated.

USDA Photo

MACON COUNTY FAMILIES ATTEND PROGRAM

W. B. Hill, State Extension leader, Tuskegee Institute, talks to Macon County farm festival families in their annual program at Tuskegee Institute.

HOMEMAKERS OBSERVE WINNING FOODS

Left—These homemakers examine some of the winning foods in second annual show Center—Alabama Power Co. home service advisers Misses Jean Norwood and Susie Smith of Auburn and Montgomery give homemakers points on agrnishing meat dishes. Right—Some of the homemakers sample demonstration dinner.

Negro Agents Appointed In Three States

Five Negro farm and home agents have been added to county extension staffs in three States to help achieve the objectives of the Rural Development Program.

The new agents have been placed in Meriwether County, Ga Covington and Holmes Counties, Miss; and Berkeley County, S.C. Two agents have been assigned to the latter — a farm and a home agent.

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USDA officials say progress will come in part through better farming, but education and vocational training, improvement of health and personal security, information on job opportunities off the farm are also essential.

Farm Credit System Of U. S. Largest In World-Speaker

Nashville, Tenn.

The Farm Credit System---the Federal land banks, national farm loan associations, Federal intermediate credit banks, production credit associations, and banks for cooperatives--is the only complete agricultural credit system, as well as being the largest cooperative in the world."

That statement was made today by Marvin J. Briggs at the first stockholders luncheon of the Central Bank for Cooperatives in Chicago during the annual meeting of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives. Mr. Briggs is chairman of the Federal Farm Credit Board, president of the National Council and general manager of the Indiana Farm Bureau Cooperative Association, Inc.

"There are four groups of organizations," Mr. Briggs stated, that can help farmers improve their situation:

1, The land grant colleges and the U.S. Department of Agriculture through research --- farmers can't do research for themselves.

2. Farm organizations---to protect the farmers' interest from encroachment from other organized groups.

3. Farmers' marketing and purchasing cooperatives--to find new markets and develop new products that consumers want.

4. Cooperative Farm Credit System-to provide the kinds and quantity of agricultural credit needed to finance a dynamic, fast changing agriculture, Mr. Briggs commented.

O. E. Zacharias, Jr., vice chairman of the board of directors of the Central Bank for Cooperatives and general manager of Southern States Cooperatives, and Homer G. Smith, president of the bank, reported on the bank's operations and the progress toward farmer ownership of the bank.

1b 1957

South Has Nearly 2,000 Farmer Cooperatives

Sat. 2-9-57

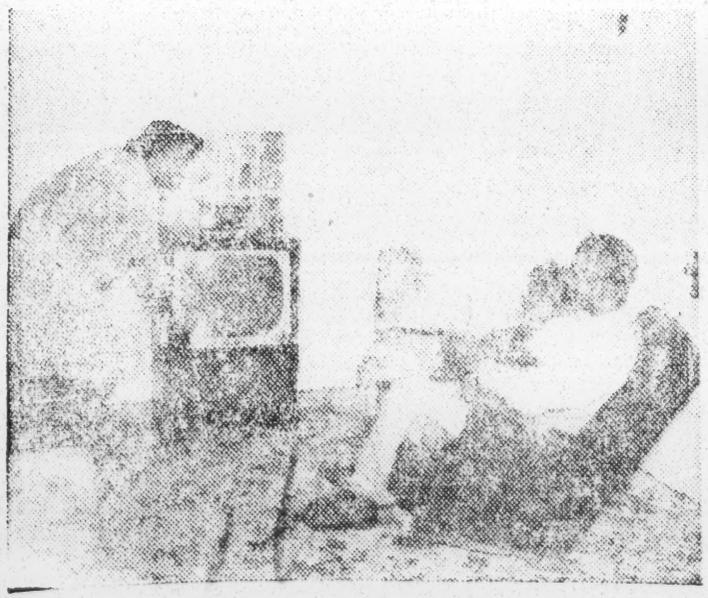
Jackson, Miss.

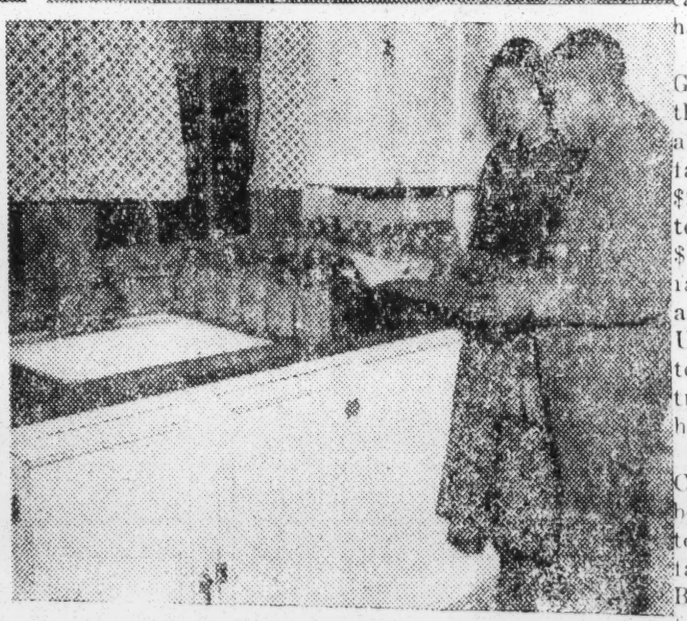
In the South where more than 95 percent of all Negro farmers reside, there are 1,878 or a fifth of the farmer cooperatives, says the Farmer Cooperative Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture in its report for the fiscal year 1954-55.

These co-ops had a membership of 2,240,350 and did a net business in marketing farm products and in purchasing farm supplies of $1,771,767. Products marketed included dairy products, cotton and cotton products, soybeans, tobacco, and poultry products. Among the supplies purchased were feed, fertilizer, seed, petroleum products, insecticides, and farm machinery and equipment.

The co-ops also provided such services as trucking, cotton ginning, storage, and locker plants.

For the Nation as a whole, there were 9,887 farmer cooperatives with a membership of 7,602,140. The net business done totaled $9.6 billion.





BETTER FARM HOMES ON INCREASE.—Farmers are now living in better homes partly as a result of credit aid from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Top, left, is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Isado O. Vernon, dairy farmers of Mt. Hermon, La. Standing with Mr. Vernon, center, by his tractor in front of his house are Farmers Home Representative J. A. Lloyd and County Agent T. J. Butler. Top, center, are Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Gerald of Orrum, N. C., studying the progress of the oats growing in front of their old house at right of their new one. Top, right, are Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Lockhart, dairy farmers of Louisville, Ga., and Farmers Home Representative Josephus Johnson, left. Mr. Lockhart is dusting his shrubbery. Looking at television at bottom, left, are Mr. and Mrs. John H. Malone and one of their six children, Clara Anne, 3, of Pickens, Miss. The Malones have already paid their 1957 annual note from the sale of livestock. Bottom, center, are Mrs. John R. Greenlee and two of her children, Helen Joyce and Samuel in a teeth-washing session in the bathroom of their Ethel, Miss., home. Checking on their home-canning in their modern kitchen, are Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Graves, tobacco farmers of Carson, Va. These homes will be the center of interest during the observance of National Home Demonstration Week, April 28 to May 4.—USDA Photo.

Negro Farm Homes In South Being Face-Lifted Through Government Aid

Washington, D. C., April 22 — Negro farm housing in the South, although still mostly rundown, is now being face-lifted at an increased pace partly as a result of sound long-time credit aid being made available to farm families by the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Not only is the housing taking on a new look, inside and out, with tiled bathrooms and long-nee multi-purpose utility rooms, but farming also is looking up more sharply.

These observations are based on what I saw during a recent two-week tour of rural areas in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Although, I visited 19 families whom the Farmers Home has helped to get on their feet. I sat in their comfortable homes and heard the stories of their problems and their truimphs. I walked over their farms, observing the soil and water conservation practices they had established, such as terraces, contour tillage, cover crops, and drainage systems. I saw, too, their improved pastures with grade and purebred livestock grazing in them.

Under sheds out of the weather, or out in the fields providing the horsepower for spring plowing were tractors purchased with loans from the Farmers Home. And there were combines here and there, and haybalers and half-ton trucks nad peanut pickers, too.

In addition to giving farmers guidance in planning sound systems of farming, the Farmers Home also makes loans with which families may put the planning into effect.

In four out of five of the homes I visited the head of the household was relatively young — in his late 20's, 30's or early 40's. A number of them were veterans who had seen service overseas during World War II. And all of them were ambitious and determined to make good.

Take Veteran Percy Everson of Disputanta, Va. He was busy developing and fencing improved pastures of ladino clover, orchard grass, and lespedeza with part of an $8,000 loan he had received from Farmers Home to build a home and a barn and to improve his farm.

The pastures were coming along fine, but there wasn't a cow in sight. Mr. Everson is going into livestock production right this time. He is getting his feed supply first, then he'll buy some cows. He went into livestock raising wrong shortly after the war. He bought three Hereford brood cows and had to sell them within two months because his grazing ran out and he had no money to buy feed for them.

Willie Lee Amerson of Bartlow, Ga., says proudly that he is one of the best farmers in all Georgia, and the production on his 186-acre farm proves it. Last year he sold $2,700 worth of buttermilk, door to door, $3,400 worth of hogs, and $1,850 worth of cotton. His hog farrowing houses and pastures are as up-to-date as those at the USDA's Beltsville Research Center; and he has a State Dairy Show trophy to speak for the quality of his dairy herd.

Louisiana's farmer of the year, Clarence Broussard of Lafayette, boasts 1,250 pounds of lint cotton to the acre in an area where most farmers are glad to get 400 lbs. But Mr. Broussard is no one-crop farmer. In addition to producing 25 bales of cotton on 10 acres, he raises 2,000 bushels of sweetpotatoes a year, and $1,000 worth of cayenne pepper, not to mention his hogs and beef cattle.

The Broussards have one daughter at Tuskegee and another at Southern University. Six more will be heading for college later from their trim, white frame house which sits in a beautifully landscaped yard that stretches away 200 feet to the road.

In fact it was the housing of all the things I saw which impressed me most. Looking at some of the houses from which the families had moved, it was hard for me to realize that their former occupants could have had dreams in the back of their heads of the kind of homes they have built. Yet here were the homes: neat, clean, and as modern as any city dwelling.

Briscoe Stackhouse of Fairmont,

N. C., for example, had two bathrooms and a knotty pine multipurpose utility room in the 67-foot rambler he had built for his family of 11. Members of the family use the utility room to prepare vegetables for canning and home freezing, and to wash up and change their clothes when they come from the field.

In Carson, Va., I visited 33-year-old Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Graves who had made an old house look like new. In the spotless kitchen they had their record book out and were taking inventory of the jars and jars of fruits and vegetables Mrs. Graves had canned.

Sitting by the television in the attractive living room of his Pickens, Miss., home at the end of the day were 31-year-old John H. Malone and his wife and one of their six children. Out in their pastures grazed 33 head of Hereford cattle. He had already paid his 1957 annual note to Farmers Home 10 months ahead.

As I sit here at my typewriter, referring to my notes, and recalling my pleasant visits with these families and with the state, area, and county officials of the Farmers Home who are working with them, I wish I could say that all the other farmers are doing just as well, and that the problem of small low-income farmers has been solved. But this simply is not true. The mass of small farmers, especially Negro farmers, still earn less than $1,000 a year and live in shabby houses. However, increasingly these houses stand empty, or bulging with hay for acres of beef cattle.

The families I visited were not a representative sample. They were examples of one aspect of Government help in promoting family-type farms, but more than that, they were symbols of hope and directional beacons for their communities. These homes will be the center of interest during the observance of National Home Demonstration Week, April 28 to May 4. Neighbors will visit to get pointers and stimulation for their own dreams.

Last year the Farmers Home made loans totaling $250 million to 93,000 similar farm families to buy or develop family-type farms, or to purchase equipment, livestock, and supplies with which to operate their farms, or to build homes and farm buildings. In addition, it made emergency loans of $86 million to some 45,000 other farmers.

The repayment record of the borrowers has been outstanding. For example, in 1956, Farmers Home collected in principal and interest $292 million. Although some of the loans are made for periods up to 40 years, thousands of farmers have paid out well ahead of schedule.

In its 20-year history, Farmers Home has loaned about $290 million to some 275,000 Negro farm families. About 10,000 of these received loans to buy farms and build homes.

212 Attend 53rd Farmers' Conference

Courier p3
Call Jrl. 2/8-57 Kansas City, Mo. p. 20
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TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Two hundred and twelve persons attended the 53rd annual Farmers and Homemakers Conference held at Florida A. and M. University recently.

During the one-day conference, the participants received instructions and training which will aid them in improving their farming methods as well as living on the farm.

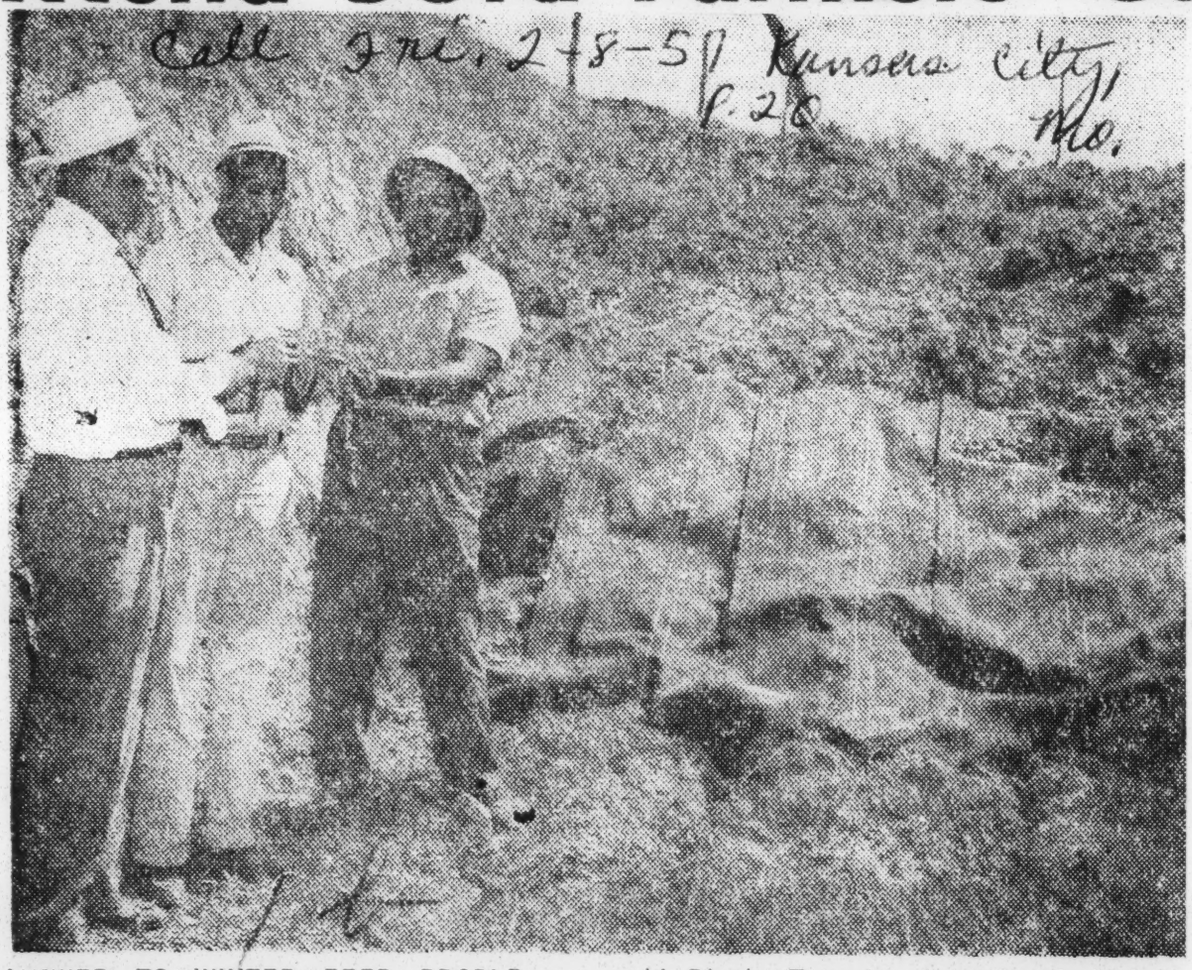
The program, which is sponsored annually by the School of Agriculture and Home Economics, included such subjects as home and ground beautification, meal planning, soil testing, information on permanent pastures, insect and pest control, poultry management, clothing operation of farm management, social security on the farm, soil bank provisions, and law on the farm.

■

THE THEME for the conference was "Improving Farm and Family Living Through Cooperative Planning." Technical information was furnished by members of the staff of both agriculture and home economics.

In addition, consultants from the university law school participated. Dr. C. C. Moxley, economist, Florida Agricultural Extension Service, discussed social security on the farm.

E. H. Boyles, specialist, Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Committee, USDA, discussed the soil bank program.



ANSWER TO WINTER FEED PROBLEM. — Trench silos are proving to be the answer to the winter feed problem of many small farmers who are shifting from cotton to cattle. McKinley Smith, center, a 155-acre farmer of Tallahassee, Fla., is shown standing in his 225-ton capacity trench silo dug at a cost of less than $75. He is checking the condition of his silage with District Extension Agent Joseph A. Gresham, left; and County Agent Richard A. Hartsfield. The silage is packed under the roofing paper and soil. Mr. Smith grows 20 acres of corn for silage every year to feed his 125 to 150 head of beef cattle during the winter months. — USDA Photo.

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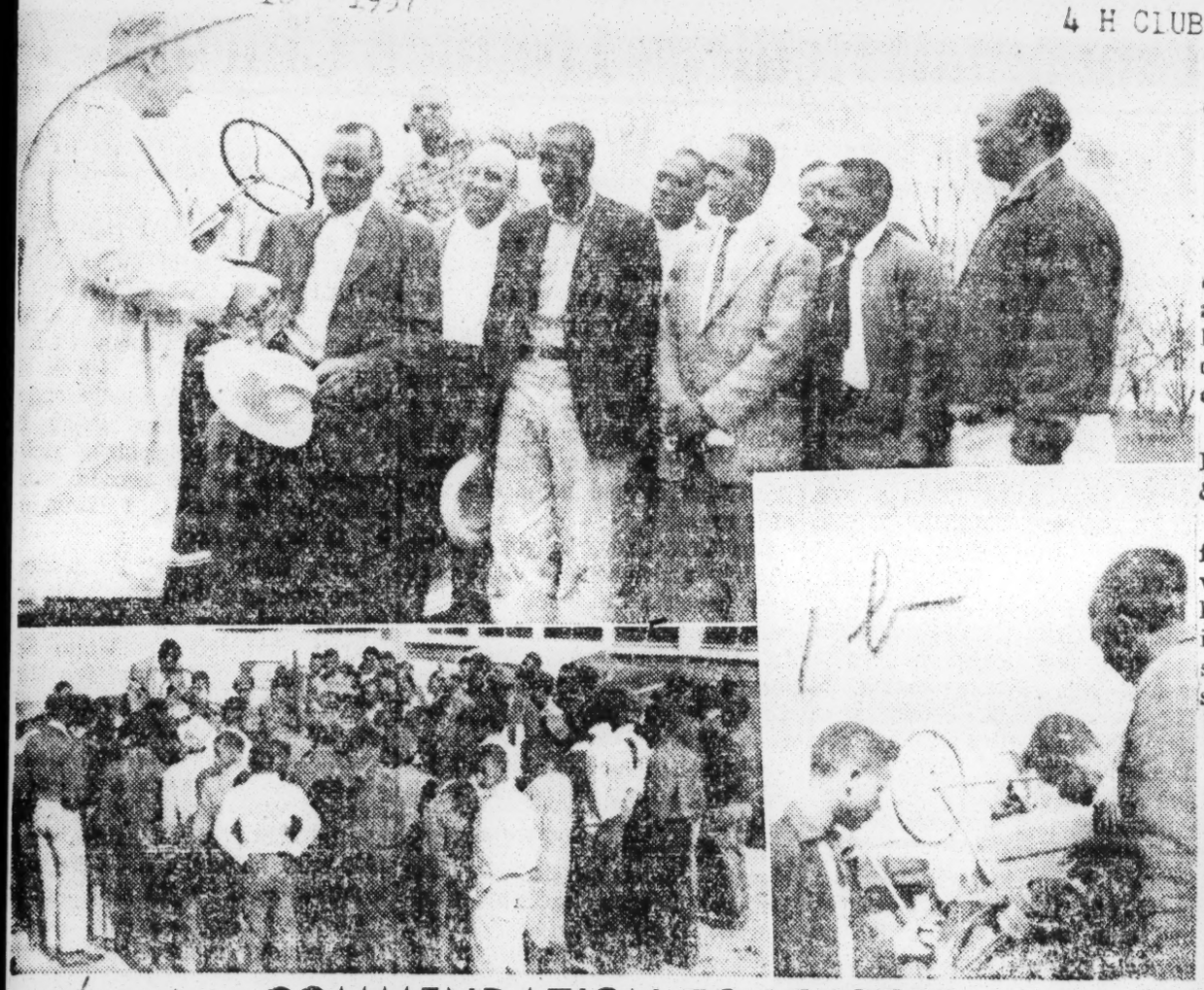
4 H CLUB



COMMENDATION TO LEADERS

Top—Greene County Superintendent of Education S. B. Boyers commends leaders for conducting a timely tractor program. F. D. Jackson, county agent (on tractor), E. W. Underwood (right) and A. Shaw, both vocational agriculture teachers, plan and conduct the annual school for 4-H'ers and NFA boys. Bottom Left—This group of Lee County 4-H and NFA boys gets points on safety in their annual tractor school. Bottom Right—A Lee County adult leader gives the boys instruction on oiling machines.

4-Her's Dress Wins Top Award At Ark. Confab

PINE BLUFF, Ark. — The winner of the dress revue at the 32nd annual Negro 4-H Club camp and Leaders Conference is Miss Freddie Williams, Dermott, Chicott county.

The conference was held recently on the campus of Arkansas AM & N college, here.

Miss Williams wears the black faille two-piece dressmakers suit which won her first award. She had to eliminate about 30 entrants in the best dress division before she had a chance at the sweepstakes prize.

MISS WILLIAMS

The 20-year-old daughter of Mrs. Ethel Williams of Dermott, Freddie is a member of the Bright Star 4-H club of Dehsa county. She has completed four years of 4-H club work and has participated in health and home managements projects.

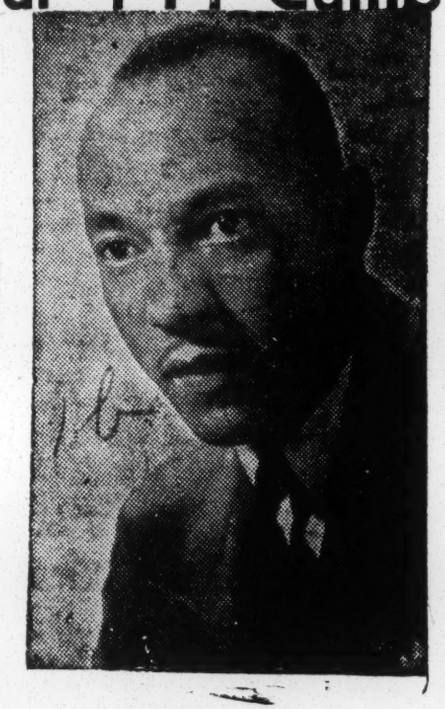
A recent high school graduate, Freddie will enter business college Nashville, Tenn., this fall.

About 670 4-H members, adult leaders and agricultural extension agents attended the camp. Twenty-three of the State's counties were represented at the annual event.

World-Famous Track Star J. Owens to Address Tenth Annual Regional 4-H Camp

Washington, D. C.—Jesse Owens, world-famous track star and a member of the Illinois State Youth Commission, will address the 10th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp here at Howard University on August 17, P. H. Stone, camp director, announced this week.

Other speakers who will appear on the seven-day encampment program, which begins on August 11, are Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse; Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View A. & M. College; Edward W. Alton, national director of 4-H and Young Men and Women's Work of the Federal Extension Service; and Miss Roberta Church, chief of minorities section, U. S. Department of Labor.



JESSE OWENS

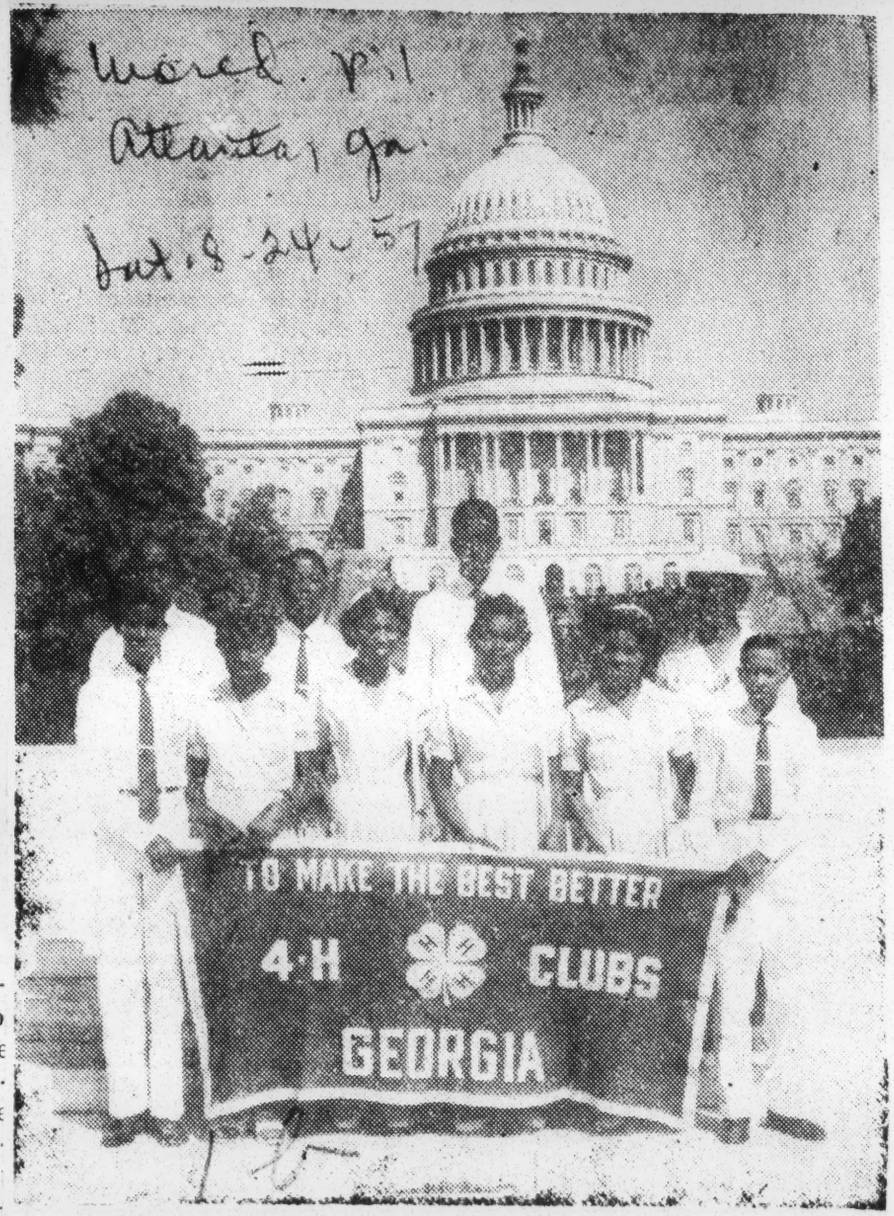
Award's Dinner

Mr. Owens will address the 4-H awards' dinner in Howard University's Baldwin Hall where four persons will be cited for their contribution to 4-H club work.

In addition to the speeches, the 4-H club boys and girls will do a good bit of talking themselves, says Mr. Stone. They will take part in a number of group discussions of rural life and community problems.

The youths making up the delegation to the encampment will come from the 17 States of the South. They will be representing 359,000 fellow 4-H'ers. The name of the organization grows out of their 4-H pledge: "I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service, and my Health to better living for my club, my community, and my country."

Delegates are selected on the basis of their achievements in farm and home projects and club leadership. One hundred and twenty-eight are expected to attend. They will be accompanied by two Extension Service workers from each of the 17 participating States which are as follows: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisinan, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.



GEORGIA 4-H'ERS IN WASHINGTON last week for the 10th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp are shown near the Capitol. Left to right are: on the front row, Charles Howard, Annette Schley, Earlene Hazel, Mary McCarthern, Venus Cooper, and Clarke Everett. On the back row, left to right are: M. C. Little, Assistant Club Agent; Melvin Mosley, Clifford Lewis, and Mrs. Doris T. Owens, Assistant State Agent. — (USDA Photo)

Mechanization Creates Need For More Brain Powe, 4-H Camp Told

WASHINGTON, D. C. — With machines now doing most of the work on the farms and in the factories, the great need is for more brain power, said Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse in an address Sunday during the closing session of the 10th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp, August 11-19 here at Howard university.

Continuing his emphasis on the need for more brain power, or education, the Under Secretary pointed out that only 13 out of every 100 children who enter school go on to college, and of these, only 50 per cent graduate.

"Pursue your education with a never-ending, intensive search for knowledge," Mr. Morse urged the 128 rural boys and girls from the 17 Southern States. "It is the dependable foundation on which to build your future," he continued. "You girls will need a good education as you become homemakers and mothers. All of you will need more and more knowledge for the dynamic and challenging era in which it is our privilege to live."

Other Speakers

Other speakers on the seven-day program were: Jesse Owens, famous track star who is now serving with the Illinois Youth Commission; Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View, Texas, A. & M. college; Dr. David S. Weaver, Director of the North Carolina Extension Service, and chairman of the camp committee; C. M. Ferguson, administrator of the Federal Extension Service, a sponsoring agency of the camp; Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell, dean of home economics at Howard; Miss Patsy Graves, who recently returned from India where she trained home demonstration agents; Miss Roberta Church of the U. S. Department of Labor; Dr. Edward W. Aiton, national director of 4-H work; and P. H. Stone, camp director.

In addition to hearing speakers, the 4-H'ers joined in a number of discussions on such topics as the "place of the 4-H club in the community," "rating of 4-H with Boy Scouts, New Farmers, and church clubs." "ways of improving 4-H contribution to better rural living," and "the need for attaining an education."

Other activities in which they took part were wreath laying ceremonies at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National cemetery and at the tombs of George and Martha Washington at Mount Vernon.

The sightseeing tour schedule included the White House where the youths heard a short address by E. Frederick Morrow, White House aide, and visits to the Capitol, the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Research Center, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the Lincoln Memorial, the National Cathedral, and the National Zoological Park.

Fellowship Dinner Held

Another feature of the camp was fellowship dinner at Howard where the boys and girls presented plaques to four persons who have made outstanding contributions to 4-H. Those who were honored are: Miss Hattye E. Roseman, secretary in the Mississippi State Extension offices; Dr. William J. L. Wallace, president of West Virginia State College; J. E. Dickson, retired county agent of Richland County, S. C.; and Dr. E. B. Evans of Prairie View in absentia.

The delegates, representing 354,000 fellow members, were from Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

Among the delegates were:

Alabama: David Scroggins, Elmore County; Rannie J. Bradley, Lowndes; William A. Griffin, Madison; Walter Harris, Macon; Kareen Marbury, Coosa; Walretta Odom, Monroe; Arneda Thomas, Lee; Alma Turnipseed, Montgomery; T. R. Agnew and Miss Bertha M. Jones, 4-H leaders.

Arkansas: Clarence Brandon, Lee County; William Holmes, Phillips; GeMajor Randle, Lee; Thearders Hall, Pulaski; Edith Garrett, Jefferson; Floretta Douglas, Cross; Maxine Haymon, Chicot; Grace Sims, Monroe; T. R. Betton and Mrs. Fannie Mae Boone, 4-H leaders.

Florida: Longworth Johnson, Jackson; Bailey Walker, Jefferson; Donald Brown, Gainesville; Johnnie Hill, Sumpter; Iva Baker Duval; Milsred Harris, Gadsden; Karen Toombs, Alachua; Irma Jean Simmons, Volusia; Virgil Elkins and Miss Floy Britt, 4-H leaders.

Georgia: Clifford Lewis, Meriwether; Melvin Moseley, Baldwin; Charles Howard, Bibb; Clarke Everett, Early; Mary Lou McCarthern, Dougherty; Annette Schley, Sumter, Earlene Hazel, Hancock; Venus Cooper, McIntosh; M. C. Little and Mrs. Doris T. Owes, 4-H leaders.

Kentucky: James Nelson McKinney, Fulton; William Kenny Jackson, Bourbon; Leroy Pollard, Christian; James Wallace Shanklin, Todd; Annie Elizabeth Johnson, Todd; Betty Jane Penn, Bourbon; Bobby Mae Croney, Christian; Laura R. Clay, Franklin; John Finch and Mrs. Rachel Hopkins, 4-H leaders.

Louisiana: Edward Morris, Union; Thomas S. Walker, Caddo; Raymond Valentine, West Baton Rouge; James E. Hunter, Pointe Coupee; Catherine Griffin, Franklin; LaVonne Marie Smith, Claiborne; Katherine Mills, East Baton Rouge; Winnie Claire Wiltz, St. Martin; Ashford O. Williams and Mrs. Marian D. Walker, 4-H leaders.

Mississippi: J. W. Williams, Bolivar; George Banks, Jr., Washington; Louis D. Clarke, Holmes; Homer Reese, Jefferson Davis; Maxine White, Jefferson Davis; Janet Marie Foster, Winston; Jessie Mildred James, Cohoma; Cleatha McDowell, Bolivar; G. E. Gray and Miss Alberta Dishmon, 4-H leaders.

Missouri: Elnora Jones, Pemiscot; Dezzy Vernell Folsom, Dunklin; Yvonne Evans, Mississippi; Joyce Hill, Pemiscot; and Miss Ella Stackhouse, 4-H leaders.

Oklahoma: Deverreaux McMurry, Okmulgee; Thurman Brown, Okmulgee; L. C. Cook, Wagoner; Donald Ray Parker, Oklahoma; Christine Benson, Logan; Eunice Brown, Okmulgee; Nancy Abram, Carter; Carlene Madden, Logan; Paul O. Brooks and Miss Hazel O. King, 4-H leaders.

Tennessee: Wiley Horne, Jr., Montgomery; J. B. Dickerson, Robertsin; Weldon B. Kidd, Davidson; Bibby L. Griffin, Giles; Fannie Bell Jones, Maury; Hortense Ferguson, Hardeman; Juanita Ann Steward, Montgomery; Mildred McCleary, Bradley; W. H. Williamson and Miss Bessie L. Walton, 4-H leaders.

Texas: Thomas McClinton, Guadalupe; Roy Island Phillips, Harris; Leroy Francis Smith; Jessie J. Carden; Freestone; Anna Lodi Whittington, McLennan; Dorothy Davis, Falls; Yvonne Lovett, Smith; Doris J. Hutchinson, Rusk; M. V. Brown and Miss Myrtle E. Garrett, 4-H leaders.

NEGRO 4-H ROUNDUP HELD FOR WINNERS

Nearly 200 Champions Are Honored At Jackson

Special To The Commercial Appeal

JACKSON, Miss., Nov. 5. State and district winners for 1957 in Negro 4-H Club work in Mississippi were honored here Tuesday at the 13th annual 4-H Club Roundup for Negro boys and girls.

The Jackson Chamber of Commerce sponsored this one-day event, which was conducted by the Agricultural Extension Service.

Nearly 200 champions in more than 30 projects were honored. Their awards included bonds, pen and pencil sets and achievement medals. These awards were made available by Mississippi sponsors and through the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, Chicago.

Negro Extension Service agents and adult leaders accompanied the boys and girls to roundup. The program included a tour of Jackson, followed by a banquet and program.

The winners were announced by Thomas M. Moman Jr., Garrett E. Gray, Alberta Dishmon and Esther W. Reed, state Negro 4-H Club agents with headquarters in Jackson.

State winners were listed as follow, by projects:

Boys' achievement—Jack Pennington, Washington County; girls' achievement—Florentine Walton, Marshall County; boys' junior leadership—Mackie D. Camper, Copiah County; girls' junior leadership—Flora Ann Hall, Jeff Davis County; adult leader—Will Cannon, Washington County; Foods—Oradine D. Price, Washington County; garden—Cora Lou Benard, Tallahatchie County; poultry—girls' Jaunester Delois Colbert, Holmes County, and boys', Paul Walker, Jeff Davis County; canning—Ikie Jean Haynes, Jeff Davis County; clothing—Mildred Pitts, Issaquena County; home improvement—Vera Julimaris Brown, Copiah County; yard beautification—Bernice Smith, Holmes County.

Dairy foods—Edna Mae Outlaw, Coahoma County; broad demonstration — Dorothy Marie Jefferson, Coahoma County; dress revue—Martha Louise Brown, Yalobusha County; corn meal demonstration—Queen Nixon, Covington County; health—J. W. Williams, Bolivar County; cotton—Harvell Williams, Bolivar County; sweetpotatoes—Ames C. Hampton, Holmes County.

"Field" crops—Eddie Williams, Washington County; swine—Kossie Pennington, Washington County; beef—Mark Baylor, Lauderdale County; meat animal—Robert Banks, Washington County; dairy—Phillip D. Sherrod, Washington County; electricity—Exo Moore Jr., Washington County; safety—Tom Morris, Washington County; forestry—Nathan Hunter Jr., Clarke County; corn—John Robinson, Lincoln County.

Tractor maintenance—M. C. Mitchell, Washington County; agricultural award—Eddie Lee Horton, Hinds County; soil and water conservation — James E. Jenkins, Washington County.

Officers of the State Negro 4-H Junior Council who assisted with the Round-Up are Ida Jones, Montgomery County, president; Nathan Hunter Jr., Clarke County, vice president; Flora Hall, Jeff Davis County, secretary-treasurer; Mary Brown, Copiah County, assistant secretary; Julius Ceasar Martin, Pike County, reporter; Annie James, Monroe County, parliamentarian and Joyce Thomas, Yazoo County, recreation leader.

BUSY S' ULE FOR 4-HERS. — 4-H club members in Wa: ton, D. C., for their 10th annual regional camp August 11-19 at Howard university had a very busy schedule. These pictures show some of the camp activities of the 128 rural youth delegates who represented their 354,000 fellow 4-H'ers in the 17 southern states. Top row, left to right: Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse takes a look at the 4-H flag. Joining him are Eleanor Jones, Hayti, Mo.; Mary German, Cedar Grove, W. Va.; William Griffin, Madison, Ala.; Carolyn Lewis, Boomer, W. Va.; and Clarence Spencer, Yale, Va. At the Capitol, Miss Roberta Church of the U. S. Department of Labor reviews the 4-H program with two Tennesseeans, Juanita Stewart, Clarksville, and Joe B. Dickerson, Springfield. Getting pointers on dairying from Herdsman Thomas Bently at the USDA Research Center are: James Kirton, Mullins, S. C.; Robert Carter, Sunderland, Md.; Clifford Lewis, Greenville, Ga.; and Lloyd Peerman, Gladys, Va. Studying the "Energy Saving Kitchen" are Yvonne Evans, Charleston, Mo.; Christine Benson, Langston, Okla.; and Catherine Griffin, Winnsboro, La. Second row, 4-H'ers visit the White House. Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell, dean of home economics at Howard, discusses the food value of eggs with Maxine White, Prentiss, Miss.; and Frederic Minus, Viola, Del. Roy Sievers, who has hit 30 homeruns for the Washington Senators, shows his big bat to Bobbee Croney, Hopkinsville, Ky.; Hobart Hale, Boomer, W. Va.; and Roy Phillips, Houston, Texas. Below is Jessee Owens with three of the award winners. Others left to right are: James Kirton, Mullins, S. C., presenting a 4-H plaque to J. E. Dickson, retired county agent of Columbia, S. C.; Miss Hattye E. Roseman, secretary in the Mississippi State Extension office; Dr. William J. L. Wallace, president of West Virginia State college; and P. H. Stone, camp director. Bottom row, left to right: Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View, Texas, A. & M. college, receives a 4-H gift from Katherine Mills, Baton Rouge, La. Others are: Thomas McClinton, Seguin, Texas; Anna Whittington, Waco, Texas; David Scroggins, Tallassee, Ala.; and Fannie Bell Jones, Columbia, Tenn. Administrator C. M. Ferguson of the Federal Extension Service and Smokey Bear have been explaining to Donald Brown, Gainesville, Fla., how the U. S. Department of Agriculture functions. Frank L. Teuton, USDA information officer, is not only explaining USDA research on substitutes for blood plasma, but is also demonstrating on Albert Friday, Timmonsville, S. C., a self-service transfusion apparatus invented by Agriculture researchers. Dr. Edward W. Alton, national director of 4-H, is discussing a model farm exhibit with Sandra Jones, Tarboro, N. C.; Bobby Griffin, Prospect, Tenn.; Rosella Hedgepeth, Rocky Mount, N. C.; Miss Emmie Nelson, field representative of the National Committee on boys and girls club work; Williams Holmes, Tucker, Ark.; Bennie Bradley, Calhoon, Ala.; James Bullock, Enfield, N. C.; and Florella Douglas, Wynne, Ark.—USDA Photo.

J. R. LIENTZ, resident manager and vice president of Union Bag-Camp Paper Corporation, Savannah, Ga., (right) presents check for $6,000 to A. S. Bacon, state agent for Agricultural Extension Work. Check will be used to help construct a new cottage at the Negro 4-H Club center near Dublin, Ga. Others in photo are (from left) Alexander Hurse, club agent; Eugene Hagins, Chatham County, reporter - State 4-H club council; and Jimmie Deborah Colson, Houston County, former vice president - State 4-H Council.

4-H CLUB YOUTHS TO WASHINGTON.—Eight 4-H Club youths will represent Florida at the regional 4-H Club meeting in Washington, Aug. 11-19. Six of the youths (shown above) were among the several hundred in attendance at the state meeting which convened on the campus of Florida A. and M. university recently. Left to right, Miss Floy Britt, assistant district agent; Iva Baker, Gilbert High School, Jacksonville; Lonwerth Johnson, Jackson County Training School, Marianna; Karen Toombs, Lincoln High School, Gainesville; Henry Lee Byrd, Webster; Mildred Harris, Carter Paramoore, Alvin Johnson, Haines City, and Dean C. E. Walker, A. and M. school of agriculture and home economics, and J. A. Gresham, district agent.

Negro 4-H Winners Are Announced

Constitution State News Service

SAVANNAH, June 20—Winners in Districts one and two competitions for Negro 4-H Club boys and girls were announced here this week by the state office for Negro work of the Agricultural Extension Service, University of Georgia College of Agriculture.

Alexander Hurse, Negro state 4-H Club leader, pointed out that senior winners will compete for state awards at the state Negro 4-H Club Congress Nov. 14-15.

First place district winners in the senior division, their counties, and their projects are: Bennie Swint, Washington, painting; Charles Mondy, Walton, poultry; Lester Kennedy Jr., Hancock, ABC of home wiring; Willie Dessan, Hancock, safety; Joe Louis Jones, Washington, gardening; Wilbert Jackson, Baldwin, forestry; William Pierce, Washington, farm and home electric; Sammy Williams, Burke, soil and water conservation; Columbus Johnson, Morgan, leadership; Willie Hill, Wilkes, field crops; Oliver Cobb, Burke, tractor maintenance.

Doris Butler, Walton, food preparation; Joan Malcom, Walton, corn meal muffins; Hassie Whitlock, Walton, yeast rolls; Beatrice Thomas, Hancock, dress revue; Betty Cooper, Burke, health; Veola Harrison, Jackson, canning; Jessie M. Rucker, Jackson, home improvement; Fay Jackson, Morgan, biscuits, and Annie L. Mapp, Greene, ABC of home wiring.

The following boys and girls won junior awards: Milton Malcom, Walton, painting; Cortez Jones, Burke, Field crops; Dannie Colbert, Jackson, gardening; Otis Malcom, Walton, forestry; Julia Lester, Jackson, dress revue; M. R. Powell, Greene, canning; Minnie Wilson, Jackson, biscuits; Annie D. Harrington, and Sylvia Clinton, Burke, corn meal muffins (team), and Bernice Dent, Hancock, corn meal muffins (individual).

Howard Is Host To 4-H Confab

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The 10th Annual Regional 4-H Club Camp will be held Aug. 11-19 at Howard University, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announced.

One hundred and twenty-eight outstanding rural boys and girls and 34 Extension leaders from the 17 States of the South are expected to make up the camp delegation.

P. H. Stone, camp director and staff assistant of the USDA Federal Extension Service said these boys and girls will be representing over 350,000 fellow 4-H'ers of the region.

Highlights of the encampment, Stone explained, will be presentations by outstanding department and other governmental and educational leaders and group discussion sessions.

In addition there will be concerts by the Army and Marine bands, sightseeing tours of the White House, Capitol, and other Government buildings, a wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and a boat trip to Mount Vernon.

This will be the third camp to be held at Howard University. The other seven have been held at colleges in the various States of the South.

The camp is sponsored by the State Extension Services of the southern region with the cooperation of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

States to be represented are: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

Two college heads to be honored by 4H Clubbers

WASHINGTON

Dr. E. B. Evans, president of Prairie View A. and M. College, and Dr. William J. L. Wallace, president of West Virginia State College, will be cited by the Regional 4-H Club Camp here at Howard University, Aug. 11-19.

Others to be honored by the rural boys and girls are Miss Hattye E. Roseman, a secretary in the Mississippi State 4-H C[illegible] and J. E. Dixon, r[illegible]th Carolina county agent.

Citation plaques will be presented to the honorees at a dinner in Howard's Baldwin Hall on the evening of Aug. 17.

* * *

AN AWARDS committee selected the four from a list of nominees submitted by extension service workers in the southern region. The citations are for outstanding service to 4-H. Jesse Owens, record-breaking track star of 20 years ago, will be the dinner speaker.

Some 128 rural youths from the 17 southern states are expected to attend the encampment. They will be accompanied by 34 extension leaders. The delegates will be representing 350,000 fellow 4-Hers.

DONATION TO ENLARGE 4-H CLUB CENTER — J. R. Lientz, Resident Manager and Vice-President of Union Bag-Camp Paper Corporation, Savannah, Ga. (right), presents a $6,000 check to A. S. Bacon, State Agent for Negro Agricultural Extension Work. The check will be used to help construct a new cottage at the 4-H Club Center located near Dublin, Georgia. At present time, a new 500 capacity auditorium and a cafeteria are being constructed at the 4-H Center as a result of a $200,000 grant from the State. A State fund raising committee is active soliciting donations to build enough cottages to house 500 clubbers. This committee has been advised that the State will match all funds raised. Others in the photo (L-R) Alexander Hurse, Club Agent; Eugene Hagins, Chatham County, Reporter — State 4-H Club Council; and Jimmie Deborah Colson, Houston County, former Vice-President — State 4-H Club Council.

11 Okmulgee 4-H'ers Receive Over $800 in Cash Awards

Eagle Tribune 5-31-57 Tulsa, Okla P.1-a

OKMULGEE, Okla. — Over $800 in state awards were given to Okmulgee County 4-H club boys at an Achievement banquet held earlier this year at the Dunbar School here. Four of these 4-Hers will compete for a trip to the regional 4-H club camp which will be held this August in Washington.

The state awards included bonds, scholarships, pen and pencil sets, watches, certificates of honor, county medals and state medals.

Winners (Pictured above), their awards and donors were: Williamley Brown of the Grayson club, a $50 bond and certificate in dairy achievement, Larro Feed Mills; Thurman Brown of the Grayson club, a $200 scholarship from C. R. Anthony company, and a 19-jeweled wrist watch and certificate of honor, Firestone Tire Company; Elwin Hill of the Lone Tree club, pen and pencil set and a certificate in forestry, American Forest Products Industries; James Albert Tate of the Wheatland club, a $50 savings bond for state winner in poultry and a certificate of honor, National Committee of Boys and Girls Club work; Ellis Johnson of the Nuyaka club and second state winner in meat and animals, $25 savings bond from C. R. Anthony company, and a pen and pencil set for achievement Ford Motor company; Deverreaux McMurry of the Dunbar club, $50 bond in safety, General Motors company; Ned Williams, of the Grayson club, and state winner in tractor maintenance, $50 savings bond, Stanolind Oil company;

Leaonar Guillory of the Grayson club, first place state winner in leadership, a pen and pencil set donated by EdwardF oss Wilson of Chicago, and also second place state winner in crops, a $25 savings bond, C. R. Anthony company; Earnest Parker of the Dunbar club and first place state winner in electricity, $50 savings bond, Westinghouse Educational Foundation;

Curits Franklin of the Grayson club and first place state winner in crops, $50 savings bond, Nitrogen division of the Allied Chemical corporation; and Richard McCurdy of the Dunbar club, first place state winner in health, $25 savings bond, Eli Lilly company.

Franklin, presient, was master of ceremonies at the banquet which was attended by approximately 200 persons. Approximately 875 4-Hers and adults attended the 4-H Achievement Day held in April in the Dunbar gymnasium.

County farm agent is D. P. Lilly who was recently awarded a Superior Service award for outstanding leadership and ability in encouraging rural families to carry out a well-balanced farm and home program and for the development of a strong youth training program.

Lilly received this presentation from Secretary of Agriculture Benson Tuesday, May 21, in Washington D. C., and was the only Oklahomans to receive this award.

Elwin Hill

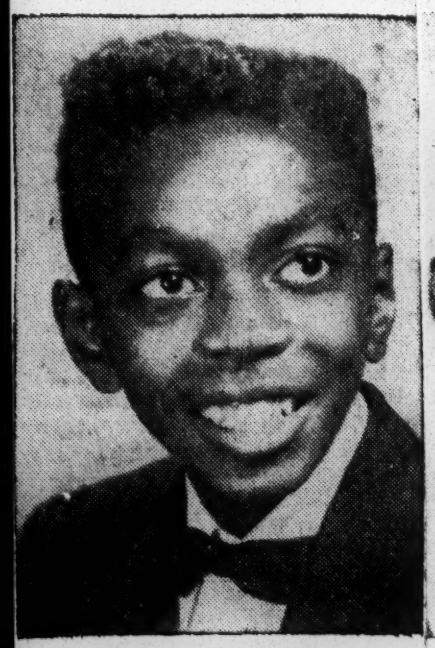
Ned Williams

James Albert Tate

Thurman Brown

William Brown

Richard McCurdy

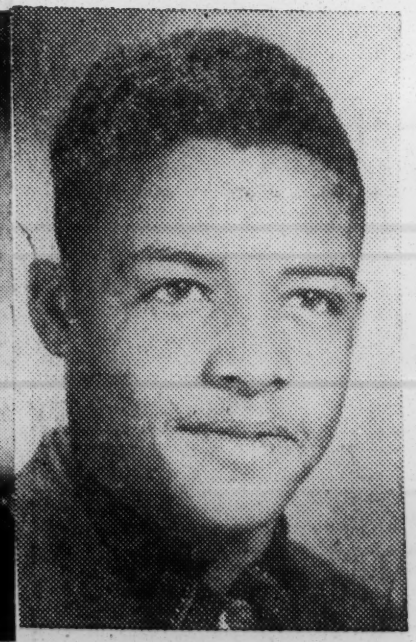


Deverreaux McMurry

Ellis Johnson

Leaonard Guillory

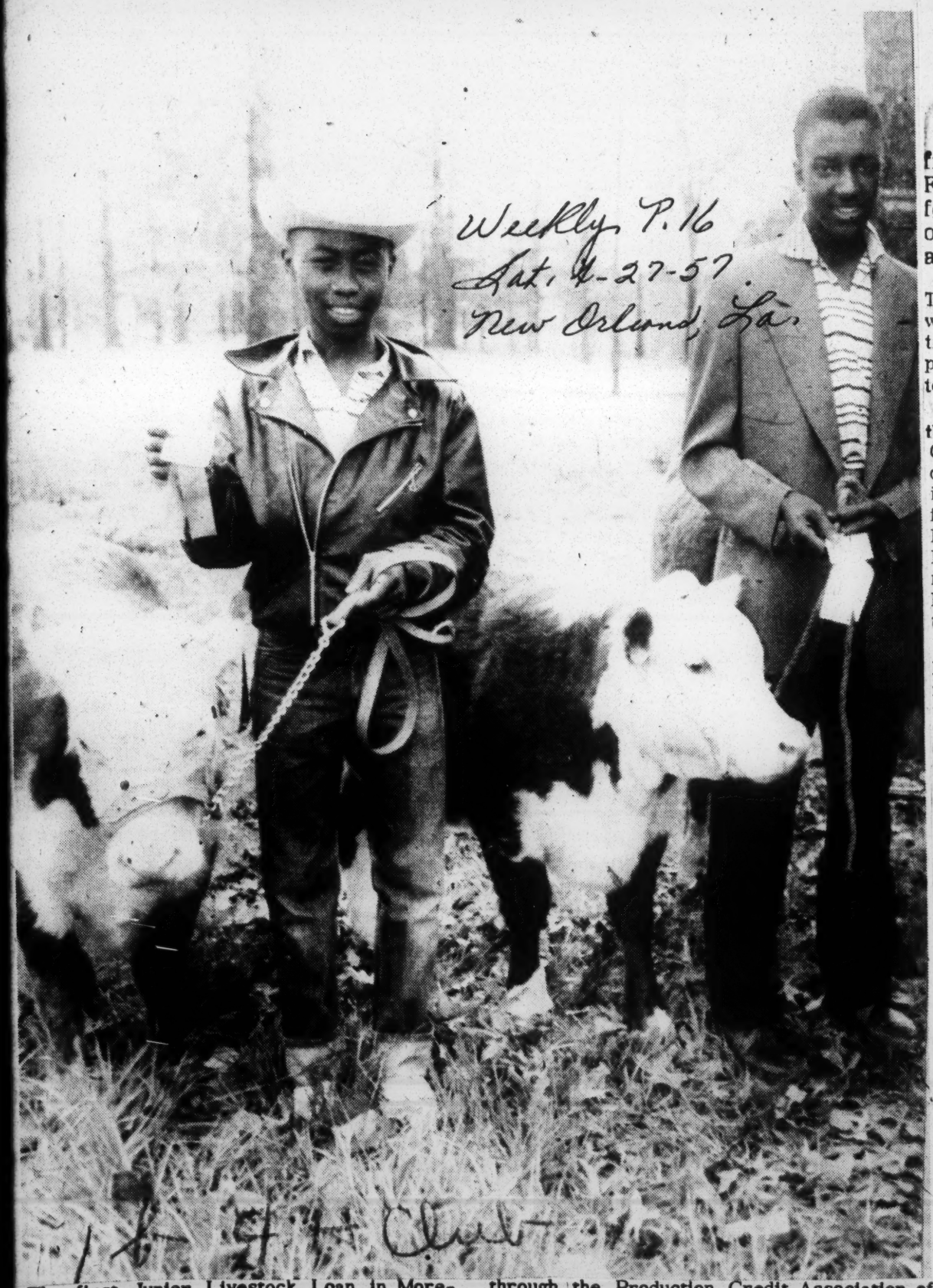
Curtis Franklin



Earnest Parker

Proud 4 H Clubber

Weekly P. 16
Sat. 4-27-57
New Orlend, La.



The first Junior Livestock Loan in Morehouse Parish was made by Carlton Banner, 4-H Clubber. Carlton, shown on the left with one of his friends, proudly exhibits two of his first pure bred Hereford Heifers, which will be used as foundation herd on his father's farm. This $500.00 loan was made possible through the Production Credit Association of Morehouse Parish and one of the leading Hereford Breeders in the Parish. Under the guidance and supervision of Mr. Lonnie Cook, Assistant County Agent, and with the cooperation of Carlton's father, this livestock project will be an asset to the farm youth in this section.

Danforth Gives $200,000 For National 4-H Center

Constitution P. 1 Sat. 5-3-57
Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 2—A grant of $200,000 from the Danforth Foundation to the National 4-H Club Foundation was announced today by Donald Danforth, foundation president. The grant is for the development of the National 4-H Club Center in Chevy Chase, Md., a suburb of the nation's capital.

In Athens, Georgia 4-H Leader Tommy Walton said, "The grant will put the National 4-H Foundation over the top in its financial program for establishing the center."

The largest event to be held at the 4-H Center is the National 4-H Club Conference. Conducted in the capital each June, the conference is attended by four top 4-H'ers from each state and territory. Dan Minchew, Baxley; Robert Mansell, Roswell; Gaynor Milliron, Shellman, and Janet Johnson, Talking Rock, will represent Georgia at the 1957 event.

Concerning the $200,000 grant, Danforth said in a letter to Norman C. Mindrum, executive director of the National 4-H Foundation, "We have hopes that this new national headquarters will fill all of the purposes that you have in mind and in addition be used constructively for the cause of the youth and the worthwile programs of the 4-H Club."

In addition to the $200,000, the Danforth Foundation will present the 4-H Center with a statue of a rural youth, symbolic of the young people that the center will serve. It also will be a tribute to the late William H. Danforth, founder of the Danforth Foundation, who was known for his interest in youth and 4-H Club activities.

The National 4-H Club Center is owned by the National 4-H Club Foundation, but is currently leased to the Department of Defense. Their lease expires December 31, 1957, and the 4-H Foundation will begin renovation of the property in January, 1958. Two new wings will be added to Smith Hall, the existing buildings completely renovated.

500 Attend Annual 4-H Rally in Bristow; Awards Total $400

Eagle Thurs, 4-25-57 Tulsa, Okla. P-1-a

BRISTOW, Okla. — Approximately 500 4 H Club members and adults attended the annual Creek County Achievement program, April 12, in Lincoln High school auditorium where $400 in scholarships, bonds and prizes were awarded 4-H Club members, according to C. D. Ashley, County Farm agent, and Mrs. A. L. Anderson, Home Demonstration agent.

Winners of general activities were as follows: Teddie Pauline Sypert, Bristow, champion in timely speech; Birdie Ruth Durant, speech; Ollice Brown, Slick, champion in timely speech; and James Mason, Depew, reserve champion in timely speech.

In the demonstration session champions of the junior breadmakers were Christine Timmons and Rosetta Burton, Depew club; reserve champions, Catherine Davis and Catherine Smith, Lorance club.

Senior breadmaking division winners were: Wilma Ahsley and Shirley Johnson, Bristow, senior 4 H club. They were also grand champions of all girls' demonstrations.

Margret Denton and Charlotte Mackey both of Bristow tied for grand champion in individual demonstrations.

Winners in Boys Division

In the boys' division Nimrod Chappell and Leo McIntosh, Olive 4-H club, were grand champions and Joe Bennie Williams and Jimmie Jackson, Bristow, reserve champions of all boys' demonstrations.

Teddie Pauline Sypert was grand champion in individual demonstrations; and Birdie Ruth Duhart, reserve champion.

Appropriate Dress

In the appropriate dress contest Deborah Washington, Morning Star 4-H club, was champion of the head scarf division.

Blus ribbon winners were: Barbara Bland, Morning Star; Ludia Mason, Morning Star.

Red ribbon class winners were Patricia Canady, Depew; Wanda Timmons, Depew; Theresa Gibbs, Lawrence; and Reginia Turner, Bristow.

White ribbon class winners were Margret Alexander and Linda Edwards, Bristow Junior 4 H club.

Aprons: Nickie Cooper, Bristow, champion and blue ribbon class were Etta Jean Penn and Fay Vaden, Lawrence; Patricia Ann Chaney, Morning Star; Carolyn Flowers, Depew.

Red Ribbon class: Charles Etta Brown, Lawrence; Melvia Franklin and Mary Taylor, Bristow; Alice Williams, Bristow.

Third Year Dresses: Jeraldine Garrett, Bristow, champion; Wanda Washington, Morning Star, Reserve champion; Blue ribbon class: Maudie Lois Thompson, Morning Star, Red ribbon class Thelma Smith, Lawrence club; Glenda Vaden, Lawrence; James Etta Moses, Bristow; Willie J. Crews, Morning Star; Janice Novelton, Depew, Betty Jo Hunt, Slick.

White ribbon class: Myretha Bland, Morning Star; Emma Laskey, Morning Star; Versadell Washington, Morning Star; Shirley Timmons, Depew; Donna Bennett, Depew; Patricia Harry, Slick.

Fourth Year Dresses; Alice Harry Slick; and Margo Barens, Bristow Junior club, red ribbon winners.

Skirts and Blouses

Skirts and Blouses: Velma Penn, Brown, Lawrence; Clara Harris, Lawrence; Jacqueline Washington, Bristow, Blue Ribbon Class.

Red Ribbon class: Ruthie Mae Crews, Theresa Chancy, Morning Star; Christine Timmons, Depew; Maxine Nash, Slick. 4

Sixth Year Dresses: Erana Nash, Slick, champion, Blue ribbon class, Lavern Barnes, Catherine Smith, Lawrence; Lenora Garnett, Arnetta Hare, Slick.

Red Ribbon class: Nellie Bell, Morning Star; Cleovia Johnson, Morning Star; Cornola Bland, Morning Star.

Seventh Year Dresses: Champion, Teddy Sypert; Blue Ribbon winners, Margret Denton, Wilma Ashley, Charlotte Mackey, Bristow; Catherine Davis, Lawrence; Carl Etta Peevy, Slick. Red Ribbon class: Clevia Johnson, Morning Star.

Eagle P.4-D

Eighth Year Dresses: Birdie Ruth Durant, Champion, Shirley Johnson, Bristow, reserve champion.

Boys' Dress Contest

In the boys' department of the dress contest, J. C. Mason, Depew was grand champion and Arville Alexander, Bristow, reserve grand champion.

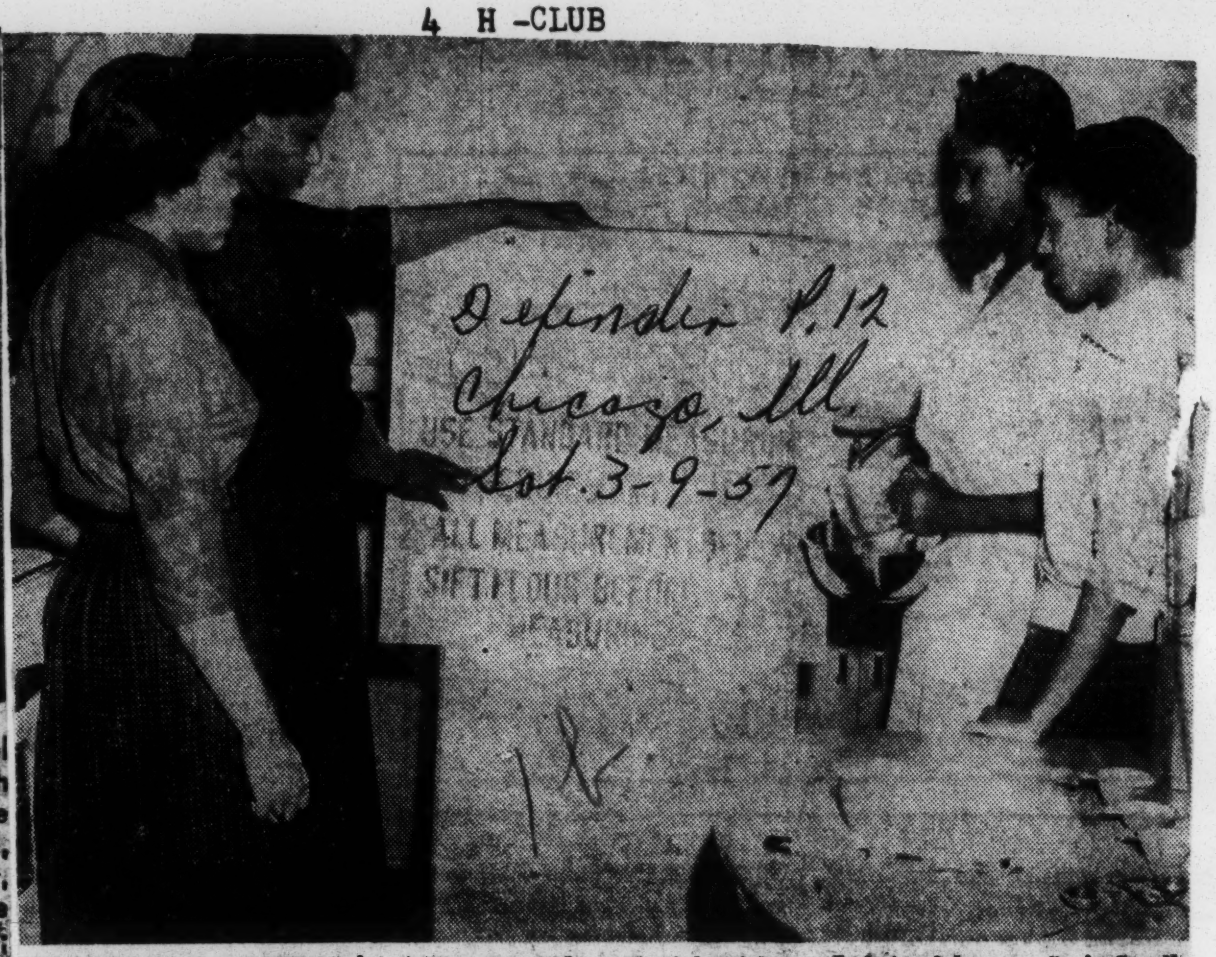
Blue Ribbon winners were Billy Mason, Morning Star; Jimmie Jackson, Bristow; Cecil Washington, Morning Star; R. L. Crawford, Morning Star and Lechen Ashley, Bristow. The awards for these events were made possible by the $50 in cash donated by the Bristow Chamber of Commerce and the Creek County Home Demonstration council.

Other awards presented during the day were a $200 scholarship on citizenship given by Sen. Robert S. Kerr, a $50 savings bond in clothing to Shirley Taylor of Slick, and a $50 bond on Food Preservation to Birdie Ruth Durant, Slick.

Charlotte Mackey, Bristow, 4 H club, received a pen and pencil set for leadership.

Author Foster, Bankers' Association representative, presented service awards to 19 4-H club coaches during the session.

LEAD N. C. 4-CLUB FOUNDATION—Among the principal figures participating in the annual meeting of the North Carolina 4-H Club Foundation held at A. and T. College were, from left to right (seated): Mrs. Idell J. Randall, newly added to the board of directors, and J. H. Wheeler, Durham banker and president of the Foundation. Those standing are W. C. Cooper, assistant state 4-H director; Mrs. Emma Johnson, Garysburg; A. W. Solomon, Greensboro, and R. E. Jones, state agent, in charge of the A. and T. College Extension Service, all members of the board of directors.



KEY TO GOOD COOKING is correct measurement of the ingredients, Mrs. Verna G. Motley, home agent, second from left, tell three Montgomery County, Md., 4-H club girls. They are observing National 4-H Week by taking steps to improve their project work. Left to right are: Susie Smallwood, a delegate to the 1956 Regional Camp; Mrs. Motley, Shirley Howard, and Margaret Hawkins.—USDA Photos

350,000 Rural Youths Mark National 4-H Week

WASHINGTON—More than 35,000 rural colored boys and girls who hold membership in 4-H clubs, are among some 2,200,000 young people who are observing National 4-H Club Week, March 1-9.

"Improving Family and Community Living" is the continuing theme of its annual observance.

Throughout the year, club members unite Head, Heart, Hands, and Health to help bring the theme more and more into reality, says Dr. Edward W. Aiton, director of 4-H and Young Men and Women's programs of the Federal Extension Service.

RECRUITING

During the week 4-H boys and girls are carrying on a recruitment campaign to help extend club benefits to more rural youth; also they are giving special salutes to 33,000 adult leaders of their clubs; are reviewing their 1956 project achievements and making plans for this year.

Last year, the 4-H'ers owned and cared for 90,000 head of livestock, nearly two million chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese; had over 100,000 acres in field crops, and 25,000 acres in fruits and vegetables.

Also they canned, preserved, or froze a total of 1,800,000 quarts of vegetables, fruits and other foods; and they planned, prepared and served 3.400.000 meals.

OTHER PROJECTS

The 4-H'ers carried out a number of other projects in home improvement, yard beautification, home industries, health and sanitation, and soil and water conservation and management. Membership in 4-H is made up of young people, mainly rural, between the ages of 10 and 21 years.

Altogether, 353,394 colored boys and girls in the 17 Southern States are enrolled in 4-H clubs. Girls outnumber boys by nearly 40,000. Georgia has the largest club enrollment, 53,082; North Carolina is second with 52,598; and Mississippi, third with 49,260.

In keeping with their slogan, clubbers "learn by doing" and follow their motto, "to make the best better." For a well-rounded life, they enjoy play and recreation as well as interesting, worthwhile work.

Character development and good citizenship are the most important goals, Dr. Aiton emphasizes.

The 4-H program is a part of the national educational system of cooperative extension work in agriculture and homemaking, in which the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State land-grant colleges, and the counties share.

Observance Being Held This Week

Georgia Leads In 4-H Members With 53,082 On Roll

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DURING THE week colored 4-H boys and girls are carrying on a recruitment campaign to help exx tend club benefits to more rural youth; also they are giving special salutes to 3,000 adult leaders of their clubs; and they are reviewing their 1956 project achievements and making plans for this year.

Last year, these 4-H'ers owned and cared for 90,000 head of livestock, nearly two million chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese; had over 100,000 acres in field crops, and 25,000 acres in fruits and vegetables.

• • •

ALSO [illegible] canned, preserved [illegible] a total of 1,[illegible] of vegeadles, fruits, and other foods; and they planned, prepared, and served 3,4[illegible] meals.

The 4-H [illegible] carried out a number of other projects in home improvement, yard beautification, home industries, health and sanitation, and soil and water conservation and management. Membership in 4-H is made up of young people, mainly rural, between the ages of 10 and 21 years.

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THE 4-H PROGRAM is a part of the national educational system of cooperative extension work in agriculture and homemaking, in which the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the state land-grant colleges, and the counties share. National headquarters are in the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK March 2-9, is the time most club boys and girls take a second look at their project plans for the year. Harvey and Henry Ingram of Pulaski-Tenn., raised calves as their project. They are shown in a picture made last summer with their county agent, M. O. Maxwell.

Two improtant 4-H supporting groups are the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work, with headquarters in Chicago, and the National 4-H Club Foundation in Silver Spring, Md., just outside Washington.

Annual 4-H Club Dinner Held at Okmulgee; Awards Given

OKMULGEE, Okla. — A crowd of 200 4-H Club members, parents and friends celebrated National 4--H Club week in Okmulgee county by attending the annual 4-H banquet at Dunbar school and receiving awards for achievement, according to Mrs. Anna L. Anderson, Home Demonstration agent.

The guest speaker was President Willham, Oklahoma A&M college, Stillwater.

Eunice Brown, won the 1956 achievement award for girls which this year was a $22 pen and pencil set given by the Ford Motor company. This is Eunice's ninth year of club work. During the nine years she has won a $58 wrist watch for Dairy foods, state grand champion in regular and team demonstrations, has been state reserve champion in timely speech, has served as president of two local clubs—Olympia and Dunbar and is now serving as County 4-H president and state secretary of 4-H Clubs. Eunice will try for a trip to the National 4- -H Camp in Washington this year.

Wilma Jean McFall is 1956 state winner in Home Gardening and her award is a 50 savings bond. Besides this achievement Wilma Jean along with her teammate was state reserve champions in cotton home improvement for two consecutive years and was also winner of a 50 bond in home improvement in 1955.

Janice Lynn Wilson, member of the Grayson 4-H Club is winner of the 1956 Home Improvement award which is a 50 savings bond given by the Sears Roebuck Foundation.

Miss Pannell is Alternate

Pearl Pannell, also a member of the Grayson Club, is state first alternate in food preservation and her award is a $25 savings bond offered by the Kerr Glass company.

Barbara G. McMurry, Dunbar 4-H club, is first state alternate in food preparation. She and her teammate, Ruth Fultz were also 1956 state champions in cotton clothing demonstrations.

Norma Bell Brown, Grayson, was first county winner in Food preparation and received a pie plate set as an award from the Foley Mill Company.

Erma Jean Hawkins was second alternate in the state safety contest. Her award was a county medal.

Name Other Winners

Celebrating during the annual 4-H achievement banquet was Sarah Jane Wilson, County Grand champion and state blue ribbon winner in appropriate dress.

Other appropriate dress winners receiving awards of gold medals were Ruby Guess, Elma O'Guin, Yvonne Thomas, Othea Scott, Thelma Mayfield, Florence Syas, Louise Reagor, Charlesetta Jones and Louise Wilson.

County Bread making celebrating and receiving gold plated bracelets from the Grayson Club were: Pearl Pannell, Evelina Pannell, Bobbie Wilson, Shirley Nance and Theresa Williams of Dunbar.

Other county winners receiving awards in the girls division were: Wilma Jean Martin, county winner in dairy foods who will also compete for a trip to the National 4-H camp in Washington, D. C.; Erma Jean Hawkins, county winner in safety; Delois Brown, county winner in clothing and Florine Thompson, county winner in home improvement.

DOLLAR A POUND is what this 880 pound grand champion Hereford steer brought recently at the Southern university Livestock and Poultry Show, Baton Rouge, La. Admiring the animal while its 11-year-old, 4-H owner, James Johnson, of Port Hudson, La., slicks it down for the show and auction are Maurice A. Edmond, show director and assistant State 4-H club agent; and Ashford O. Williams, State 4-H club agent. In addition to the sale price of $880, the 4-H'er received $170 in prize money.

1b 1957

GENERAL

Farm Families Make Adjustments On Tighter Allotments, Move Ahead

Journal + Guide Sat. 8-24-57 Norfolk Va. P. 9

By SHERMAN BRISCOE
USDA Information Specialist

WASHINGTON — "Tighter acreage allotments are separating the men from the boys," Mississippi State Extension Leader W. E. Ammons said to me recently when I was in his State as he explained how some farmers are adjusting to their smaller cotton acreage allotments, while others are giving up and moving to town.

This summarizes what I saw during a two-week tour of some of the farming areas of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. Some of the farmers were prospering. Others had gone, and the rundown houses in which they used to live stood empty or substituted for barns and bulged with hay.

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ALTOGETHER the Extension Service workers took me to visit 24 families. Most of these are not fazed by reduced acreage allotments of cotton and tobacco. Cotton allotments have been reduced by four million acres since 1954.

I found these farmers making up for their smaller acreage by increasing their yields and stepping up their production of livestock, poultry, and truck crops.

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SOME OF THEM are farming at a level of efficiency I am sure they never thought possible. Where they used to plow and plant and chop two acres for every bale of cotton they harvested, they now get from a bale to a bale and a half off one acre.

Where some used to be satisfied with 15 or 20 bushels of corn per acre, they now average 50 to 60 and sometimes get nearly 100.

ACTUALLY, the increased production of feed crops is the basic fact behind their rapid shift from cotton to livestock as one of their main methods of adjustment. Instead of fighting grass the way they used to do, most farmers are now pampering it in an effort to develop more and more acres of improved pastures for their cattle and hogs.

And instead of being contended with a few runty pigs that root most of their food out of the earth beside empty corn cribs, farmers now grow acres and acres of hybrid

SHERMAN BRISCOE
Lauds Farmers

corn for their grade and purebred swine to hog off (or eat off the stalk in the field) in a feeding practice which is paying off in earlier marketings of meatier hogs.

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FOR EXAMPLE, Mr. and Mrs. Dolphus Jones of Caldwell, Texas, who had only one hog and no cows a few years ago, sold $958 worth of hogs and $4,100 worth of beef cattle last year. Their hogs ate six acres of corn in the fields.

In Uniontown, Ala., Mr. and Mrs. Athur Swain are getting almost as much cotton off five acres as they used to get off 10. In addition, they now have a small dairy herd of 15 grazing in excellent pastures of Dallas grass, White Dutch clover and lespedeza. The three Jerseys and five Guernseys now being milked are producing more than 30 gallons of milk a day which bring the Swains a semi-monthly milk plant check of more than $100.

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DOWN IN Quincy, Fla., Mr. and Mrs. Willie Porcher are not worried about their tobacco allotment of a little over an acre, because they are making a good living off smoked sausage. They butcher from 3 to 10 hogs every week and grind them into sausage which they put into casings and smoke. Nineteen stores in town handle their product.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Simmons of Dixie, Ga., put their eight-acre cotton allotment into the Soil Bank this year and turned their full attention to truck crops. Mr. Simmons carries a small truckload of vegetables to Thomasville or Valdosta twice a week and comes home with from $30 to $150 in his pocket.

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NEAR NEWBERRY, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Graham are now supplementing their cotton income by growing a few acres of Turkish tobacco that brings them up to $1.25 per pound.

Back of this transformation, which is bringing a better day to farmers making the adjustment, are 900 hard-working Negro Extension Service agents and supervisors. They are putting in long hours to get important research information from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the land grant colleges, and the experiment stations onto the farms and into the homes of farm families.

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ONE OF THE most impresive pieces of extension work I saw was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Jackson and their 11 children near Opelousas, La. Shortly after we drove up, Irvin, their 17-year-old son, led his purebred Guernsey cow out for us to see. This was his 4-H project. But that wasn't all, it was the first cow this sharecropper family had ever owned, and will mean a dependable milk supply at last for the children who ranged in age from 3 upward.

County Agent Leon Robinson had helped Irvin obtain this cow through credit aid from the Louisiana Junior Livestock Loan Program.

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ANOTHER equally outstanding piece of work was observed in Mississippi where the agents are helping families obtain low-priced used screen wire from a masonite plant to screen their homes.

County Agent R. M. Mackey and Home Agent Flora Parrish, now retired, have helped more than 400 families get enough of this wire to screen their homes during the past few years. I saw some of the homes. The used wire, painted with aluminum paint, sparkled in the sun.

Visiting farm families from year to year, one looks at the narrow peaks and broad valleys in the pattern of progress, and feels that the pace is a little slow. But as one talks with the people, he begins to realize that although the pace seems slow, the people are moving ahead rapidly in their thinking and planning and dreaming. And after all, that's where progress counts most.

Acreage Allotments 'Separating Men from Boys' on Southern Farms

By SHERMAN BRISCOE
USDA Information Specialist

JACKSON, Miss. — "Tighter acreage allotments are separating the men from the boys," Mississippi State Extension Leader W. E. Ammons said to me recently when I was in his state as he explained how some farmers are adjusting to their smaller cotton acreage allotments, while others are giving up and moving to town.

This summarizes what I saw during a two-week tour of some of the farming areas of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Some of the farmers were prospering. Others had gone, and the rundown houses in which they used to live stood empty or substituted for barns and bulged with hay.

Altogether the Extension Service workers took me to visit 24 families. Most of these are not fazed by reduced acreage allotments of cotton and tobacco. Cotton allotments have been reduced by four million acres since 1954.

Increase Livestock, Poultry

I found these farmers making up for their smaller acreage by increasing their yields and stepping up their production of live poultry, and truck crops.

Some of them are farming at a level of efficiency I am sure they never thought possible. Where they used to plow and plant and chop two acres for every bale of cotton they harvested,, they now get from a bale to a bale and a half off one acre.

Where some used to be satisfied with 15 or 20 bushels of corn per acre, they now average 50 to 60 and sometimes get nearly 100.

Actually, the increased product of feed crops is the basic fact behind their rapid shift from cotton to livestock as one of their main methods of adjustment. Instead of fighting grass the way they used to do, most farmers are now pampering it in an effort to develop more and more acres of improved pastures for their cattle and hogs.

And instead of being contented with a few runty pigs that root most of their food out of the earth beside empty corn cribs, farmers now grow acres and acres of hybrid corn for their grade and purebred swine to hog off (or eat off the stalk in the field) in a feeding earlier marketings of meatier hogs.

$4,100 In Beef Cattle

For example, Mr. and Mrs. Dolphus Jones of Caldwell, Texas, who had only one hog and no cows a few years ago, sold $958 worth of hogs and $4,100 worth of beef cattle last year. Their hogs ate six acres of corn in the field.

In Uniontown, Ala., Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Swain are getting almost as much cotton off five acres as theh used to get off 10. In addition, they now have a small dairy herd of 15, grazing in excellent pastures of Dallis grass, White Dutch clover and lespedeza. The three Jerseys and five Guernseys now being milked are producing more than 30 gallons of milk a day which bring the swains a semi-monthly milk plant check of more than $100.

Down in Quincy, Fla., Mr. and Mrs. Willie Porcher are not worried about their tobacco allotment of a little over an acre, because they are making a good living if smoked sausage. They butcher from three to 10 hogs every week and grind them into sausage which they put inot casings and smoke. Ninteen stores in town handle their product.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Simmons of Dixie, Ga., put their eight-acre cotton allotment into the Soil Bank this year and turned their full attention to truck crops. Mr. Simmons carries a small truckload of vegetables to Thomasville or Valdosta twice a week and comes home with from $30 to $150 in his pocket.

Grow Turkish Tobacco

Near Newberry, S. C., Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Graham are now supplementing their cotton income by growing a few acres of Turkish tobacco that brings them up to $1.25 per pound.

Back of this transformation, which is bringing a better day to farmers making the adjustment, are 900 hard-working Negro Extension Service agents and supervisors. They are putting in long hours to get important research information from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Land Grant Colleges, and the experiment stations onto the farms and into the homes of farm families.

One of the most impressive pieces of extension work I saw was at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Jackson and their 11 children near Opelousas, La. Shortly after we drove up, Irvin, their 17-year-old son, led his purebred Guernsey cow out for us to see. This was his 4-H project. But that wasn't all, it was the first cow this sharecropper family had ever owned, and will mean a dependable milk supply at least for the children who range in age from 3 upward.

County Agent Leon Robinson had helped Irvin obtain this cow through credit aid from the Louisiana Junior Livestock Loan Program.

Another equally outstanding piece of work was observed in Mississippi where the agents are helping families obtain low-priced used screen wire from a masonite plant to screen their homes.

County Agent R. M. Mackey and Home Agent Flora Parrish, now retired, have helped more than 40 families get enough of this wire to screen their homes during the past few years. I saw some of the homes. The used wire, painted, with aluminum paint, sparkled in the sun.

Visiting farm families from year to year, one looks at the narrow peaks and broad valleys in the pattern of progress, and feels that the pace is a little slow. But as one talks with the people, he begins to realize that although the pace seems slow, the people are moving ahead rapidly in their thinking and planning and dreaming. And after all, that's where progress counts most.

Farm Families Moving Ahead

Daily World
Thurs 8-13-57

By SHERMAN BRISCOE
USDA Information Specialist

Atlanta Ga.

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P. 8

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FARMERS TAKE JOBS TO FILL OUT INCOME

Daily Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
P. 15, Part 1

Some Work in Plants

Mon. 9-30-57

100 Days a Year

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, Sept. 29—More and more farmers are taking part time jobs to supliment their incomes, a recent census bureau survey has revealed.

"Farm operators working at off-the-farm jobs 100 days or more a year while running their farms on a part time basis are increasing substantially. Some find such occupations financially more rewarding than the sale of their farm products," the census bureau said.

This nearly nation-wide trend has to some extent paralleled in recent years the unprecedented expansion of industry and its partial dispersion to former preponderantly rural areas, the census bureau said.

Almost Half Work

A special study of the 1954 census of agriculture devoted to part time farming shows that almost half of the nation's farm operators reported that they had worked off their own farms one or more days in that year. By comparison, the 1930 census of agriculture found the proportion to be only 3 in 10.

More indicative of the attraction of industrial and other off-farm job opportunities is the increase in the proportion of farm operators who work off their farms 100 days or more during the year. In 1954, about 3 in 10 farm operators worked 100 or more days off their farm as compared with about 1 in 10 in 1929.

Increase of 79,000

Of special significance also was the increase that occurred in off-the-farm work between the years 1949 and 1954, a period in which the number of farm operators declined by 600,000.

In 1954 the census of agriculture revealed that some 1,334,000 farm operators reported working off the farm 100 days or more in the preceding year, an increase of 79,000 over the comparable 1949 figure.

The increasing blending of farm and nonfarm economics raised a problem of classification which was resolved by grouping farms into two general classes — commercial farms and "other" farms, the latter including part time, residential, and abnormal.

Variety of Classes

The report indicates that an important shift occurred from 1949 to 1954 with a 28.8 per cent increase in the number of commercial farm operators [with farm sales of $1,200 or more] working off their farms 100 days or more. By comparison, the number of small farm operators [with farm sales of $250-$1,199] working off their farms 100 days or more increased by only 3.4 per cent.

Analysis of part time farming and sources of the operators' income shows that part time farms fall into a variety of classes because of the different circumstances under which the operators and their families are able to supplement farm income.

Many farm operators who formerly had little or no opportunity for work off the farm have obtained off-farm work and have continued to live on the farm and to carry on some farm production.

While production has continued at old levels in some cases, in others farming has been reduced.

Negro Farm Workers Are Hit By Citizens Councils, Writer Says

World Birm, Ala. Sat. 3-30-57 P.1

BY ALICE A. DUNNIGAN

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The organization and growth of the White Citizens Councils has had a most devastating effect upon southern farm workers, according to a report recently made to the board of directors of the National Sharecroppers Fund.

The report compiled by Miss Fay Bennett, executive secretary of the organization, pointed out that the White Citizens Councils now have an approximate membership of 250,000 in all the southern states. The movement, which she claimed is 'dedicated to the maintenance of white supremacy" has drawn its largest following from the black belt (rich farming soil) areas.

"The greatest contrast between wealthy plantation owners and poor farm folk-both white and Negro — exists in these areas," the report continued. "In these (farm) areas poverty and lack of education have produced the most bigotry and the most easily aroused white mob. In contrast, the Negro has demonstrated a civilized restraint in the face of severe provocation."

"These Councils have acted in two ways to preserve the status quo: (1) overtly, by mob action to prevent enforcement of court orders for school integration; (2) covertly, by economic pressures against Negroes who are enrolled voters or otherwise indicate their insistence on rights guaranteed by the Constitution."

As an example, the report pointed to the Clinton, Tenn., school controversy which almost succeeded in overthrowing civil law in that community because 12 Negro students enrolled in the high school there. The mob (which incited most of the violence) was made up primarily of the poor farm folk in the hill country outside Clinton."

And on the second point, the report stated that numerous cases of "economic pressure" have come to the attention of the Sharecroppers Fund. In many cases the Fund made loans to tenant and independent small farmers who were about to lose their property, farm equipment and other possessions.

One of these cases involved a man's voting right. Another was based upon a man's membership in the NAACP. A third was due to a farmer's leadership among local Negro farmers working to set up a cooperative organization for their mutual help.

Last December NSF raised a substantial sum in a two-week period to prevent the foreclosure of a valuable farm in Mississippi owned by Negroes who were facing stiff pressure.

Because of its support for economic justice and civil rights of Negroes and whites in the South, the National Sharecroppers Fund has been listed among a specially selected group of six organizations and individuals "who have done the most during the year to advance the cause of harmonious race relations."

A distinguished panel of judges made the selection.

MOVE TO CHECK MIGRATION

House Passes Bill To Fight Fire Ant Menace In South

Montgomery, Ala. Jrnl 4-12-57 Advertiser P.1-A

WASHINGTON, April 11 (AP)—The House today passed a bill giving the Agriculture Department new authority to check the spread of plant and animal pests, including the South American fire ant now infesting the South.

The fire ant, believed to have invaded this country through the Port of Mobile, has a sting that can kill young cattle.

It builds high mounds interfering with crop harvesting, and at times gets into houses where it can be a serious threat to small children.

The ant has spread to many parts of the South, chiefly through hitch-hiking on nursery stock, and now infests areas as far north as Wake County, N.C., and as far west as Harris County, Texas.

Also added to the list of pests coming under emergency control are the soybean cyst mematode which destroys soybeans by feeding on the roots; witchweed which dwarfs corn, and spotted alfalfa aphids which were first discovered in New Mexico and have since spread through the Midwest and South.

The bill gives Agriculture Department agents authority to swear out warrants and enter any premises where they believe such pests exist, and to halt or control any form of transportation leading to their spread.

The bill now goes to conference with the Senate for compromise of differences in conflicting versions.

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Study says 300,000 tan farm families in Dixie earn less than $1,000 annually

Afro-American Sat. 4-6-57 P.3 Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON (ANP) —"All family farms — not just the lowest income group—are approaching crisis," according to a report recently released by Fay Bennett, executive secretary of the National Sharecroppers Fund.

But the colored farmers are faced with the greatest economic crisis. Nearly a third-million colored farm families are today receiving an annual income of less than $1,000.

The report stated specifically that there were a total of 5,226,000 farm families in the country. Of this number nearly one and a half million earn an annual income of less than $1,000.

NEARLY A million of the lowest income group live in the South. Although colored people constituted only about one-tenth of the total farm families in the country, they make up almost one-third of those with income less than $1,000 a year.

"Very little is being done to help this group of Americans whose living and health standards and educational opportunities are clearly inadequate for them to realize their best potentialities as citizens and human beings."

The greatest contrast between wealth and poverty in America has shifted from yesterday's captains of finance and the factory worker to today's corporate farm owner and the men and their families who work in the fields, the report stated.

* * *

GOVERNMENT programs are permitting over 100,000 family farms to go out of business yearly. Many of these are young farm families, former GI's who started farming hopefully after World War II.

Though given government aid to get started, they have been abandoned to a policy or lack of policy which permits them to be squeezed out before they can become firmly established leading to their spread.

The bill now goes to conference with the Senate for compromise of differences in conflicting versions.

HOUSE PASSES BILL TO CURB FIRE ANTS

Montgomery Adv. 4-12-57 Head of P. 8

Measure Also Aims At Control Of Other Pests

Memphis Tenn. Commercial Appeal 4-12-57

WASHINGTON, April 11. — (AP) — The House Thursday passed a bill giving the Agriculture Department new authority to check the spread of plant and animal pests, including the South American fire ant now infesting the South.

The fire ant, believed to have

Hired Workers In Farming Replacing Family Members

Daily World Thurs. 8-1-57 Atlanta Ga.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)— A quarter million fewer farmers operators or unpaid members of their families were at work on farms during the survey week of June 23-29 estimates the U.S. Department of Agriculture. However, the number of hired workers was up by close to 100,000.

A total of 8,800,000 persons were reported working on farms during the survey week. This was seven percent higher than a month earlier, but 160,000 fewer than during the corresponding period a year ago.

The South accounted for all but 9,000 of the net decline. In that region the number of family members deceased by 189,000 while the number of hired workers increased by 38,000.

Wage rates were reported slightly higher, ranging from $9.90 a day in Connecticut down to $3.90 in Mississippi. Last year the range was from $9.80 to $3.75.

300,000 Farmers Do Not Earn $1,000 Per Year

Call Farmer City, Ill.
Fri. 4-12-57

By ALICE A. DUNNIGAN

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — "All family farms—not just the lowest income group—are approaching crisis," according to a report recently released by Fay Bennett executive secretary of the National Sharecroppers fund. But the Negro farmers are faced with the greatest economic crisis. Nearly a third-million Negro farm families are today receiving an annual income of less than $1,000.

The report stated specifically that there were a total of 5,226,000 farm families in the country according to the latest census figures. Of this number nearly one and a half million earn an annual income of less than $1,000. Nearly a million of the lowest income group live in the South. Although Negroes constituted only about one-tenth of the total farm families the country, they make up almost one-third of those one million in the South with income less than $1,000 a year.

"Very little is being done to help this group of Americans whose living and health standards and educational opportunities are clearly inadequate for them to realize their best potentialities as citizens and human beings."

The greatest contrast between wealth and poverty in America has shifted from yesterday's captains of finance and the factory worker to today's corporate farm owner and the men and their families who work in the fields, the report stated. "The world's most efficient producers of farm products—Americans—have not eliminated dire poverty among those who work on the farms."

Little Government Help

Government programs are permitting over 100,000 family farms to go out of business yearly. Many of these are young farm families, former GI's who started farming hopefully after World War II. Though given government aid to get started, they have been abandoned to a policy or lack of policy which permits them to be squeezed out before they can become firmly established.

According to the 1955 census of agriculture, commercial family farms dropped by 11 per cent while industrialized factory farms increased by 26 per cent. A family farm is one on which the owner-operator and his family furnish at least half of the farm labor, with gross sales of less than $25,000 annually. This type of farmer, according to the report, is the backbone of America's "private enterprise" economy.

The family farmer can produce efficiently and compete effectively with the corporate farms through wider use of electric power and increased mechanization if he is given equal treatment in government subsidies and credit and if all domestic farm labor is not exploited by lack of government protection and by government promotion of foreign contract labor.

The import contract labor system began as an emergency war time measure but continues to grow apace. At the peak of employment last year there were nearly 500,000 foreign contract workers in agriculture. The majority of which came from Mexico. This does not include the Mexicans who enter the country illegally and are commonly known as "wetbacks." Other contract workers came from British West Indies the Bahamas and Canada.

A new development in the contract program is the importation by air from Japan of farm workers. A very effective contract labor system has been initiated for Puerto Rican workers. They must be guaranteed 160 hours of pay in each four week period and their working and living conditions must meet a certain standard.

Paid 35-Cent An Hour

In contrast to this program the NSF reported conditions which existed in Phillips County, Arkansas under the foreign contract system. Last June in this Arkansas county, the report stated, United States workers were earning as the top salary 40 cents an hour as compared with the Mexican workers who were earning 50 cents an hour, the minimum to which the Mexican government will agree. But by July and August the U. S. workers' pay had fallen to 35 cents an hour.

The NSF expressed grave concern over the conditions under which domestic farm workers and their families live. They earn wages far below the minimum for most urban workers. "The wages of U. S. farm workers will remain depressed when growers know they always have available a steady supply of contract workers imported from countries where the living standards are far below those of the United States..." These imported workers "have no bases here, and can, therefore, be threatened with deportation if they do not accept what is offered them."

The seriousness of this importation program has been brought to the attention of Labor Secretary James P. Mitchell by the National Sharecroppers fund. This farm group urged the labor secretary to hold public hearings on this situation permitting labor, farm interest, government and citizen organizations to present their views.

In spite of this request the U. S government signed an agreement with Mexico at the end of last year to renew the international contract labor program until June, 1959, without regard for protests from Mexico agricultural and business leaders as well as from labor and other groups in this country.

The Contribution of Farmers Contrasted With Their Plight

Herald Tribune
Sat. 4-6-57
New York, N.Y.

TO the N. Y. Herald Tribune:

Since the presentation of the Administration's oversize budget, there has been a very commendable determination by editorial writers and spokesmen for business to examine its details carefully and to suggest and justify specific reductions.

It is conceded that taxpayers should and will pay for services rendered or required, but the $5 billion assumed—but not proved—to be intended for the farmer's pocket is looked upon as a deliberate handout for no value received. The specific charge is made that farmers are a "special group," and that they are being aided "at the expense of all the taxpayers." And the fact that they have now become little more than token taxpayers makes this charge even more plausible.

But there is another aspect to services rendered and to handouts.

Though most Americans have long since ceased to give it a thought, bodily nourishment is man's No. 1 obligation for survival. Its provision must be assured or accomplished in advance of any or all other human pursuits.

The American farmer stands out alone in the world among farmers in his productiveness. We now have about 6 per cent (one in seventeen) of our population engaged in agriculture. Besides nourishing themselves, they provide the most completely diversified, fullest and richest diet in the world for the remaining 94 per cent.

All these protesting professional spokesmen are among those other 150 million people who are thus released to produce different other important necessities, and to provide the multitude of industrial products and general and special services which constitute our unprecedented and unequaled standard of intelligent living.

In contrast, the world average farmers' surplus is hardly 25 per cent. In other words, in most countries, it takes 80 per cent of the people to produce the food—leaving only a handful to provide even the comforts of decency and propriety. A fair example is Italy, where 85 per cent of the people work the land—leaving only 15 per cent for other creative work.

Poverty and distress prevail in much of the world because there is so little productive power available after the food has been produced. But America's tremendously high living standards are possible only because so great a proportion of the people are freed to create and distribute luxury and comfort.

And what has been done in America to recompense the farmer for his sagacity, his persistence and his productive success? Indeed, what has happened to him lately?

In the last five or six years his income has been driven down 20-25 per cent, in some instances by arbitrary, deliberately enforced percentage reduction in an already reduced share of parity. All this while his costs—and other peoples' wages and salaries—and income—have gone up.

With dairy product percentage parity now lowered to 75 per cent by Federal authority, my own farm, producing fluid milk for the local market at the rate of 1,000,000 pounds annually, is generating $10,000 less income than it did six years ago and our production costs are up at least $3,000. The recent spontaneous, and perhaps irresponsible, strike demonstrations throughout New York State by the dairy farmers are genuine evidence of the unrest and the distress.

That such price discriminations are unnecessary and unfair was pointedly demonstrated on Long Island last fall when the rebellious wives of the desperate potato growers, standing boldly in the highway impeding the progress of outgoing truck loads of potatoes, were able to double the wholesale price in 15 minutes.

In a last ditch effort to pay his increasing bills from lower selling prices the individual farmer has been forced to increase his unit production by working harder and longer hours. This increase has helped the general economy by keeping the cost of living down (you can still hear the credit for this being taken by the winning party at election time). But the frustrating additional surpluses have merely enlarged the area and the tensity of the distress in the vicious price-production circle which continues to surround him.

So, in view of all this confusion, it is no wonder that Mr. Benson has been prompted to outdo all his predecessors by proposing that $5 billion be spent in various ways to solve the farm problem. Tragically enough, even if this money should reach the farmer's pocket, it would be poor recompense. For, during the last six years, the impoverished farmer has subsidized the American consumers to the extent of scores of billions of dollars. On the exchange of subsidies, the farmer is still far in the red.

All this is water over the dam. And, though we farmers are not happy, we can take it a little longer. What we can't take lying down is the unfair prejudice and the implication of mendicancy on the part of so many of the people whom we serve.

As for the budget—and this is what we are concerned with here—if our selling prices were to be fixed by general consent or by public authority as, for instance, defense contracts and the rates charged by the great A. T. T. Co. are fixed—at cost plus—we would be happy to forgo the $5 billion. In fact, the farmer just naturally hates the thought of subsidies, and most especially the last gadget trumped up under which he is to get paid for idleness—if he lives right.

If the farmers' legitimately earned share of the national income could be restored (even by price controls — President Eisenhower has used that dirty phrase lately—if necessary) so that we could pay income taxes along with the rest of the folks, farm support might become merely a bookkeeping item—offset on the other side of the ledger by farmers' taxes. There would be no losses involved for anybody.

GEORGE D. TAYLOR.
Stamford, N. Y., March 31, 1957.

Purchasing Power Of Farmers Hiked

Daily World P. 1
Thurs. 8-1-57

WASHINGTON — (INS) — The Agriculture Department reported Wednesday that lower farm expenses combined with a rise in crop prices raised farmers' purchasing power two per cent in the 30-day period that ended July 15.

Prices received by farmers averaged 247 per cent of the traditional 1910-14 base period, compared to 244 per cent in the preceding month and 243 per cent in July 1956.

Higher prices received for meat animals, poultry and eggs, and dairy products were primarily responsible for the increase in crop prices.

$10 Million In Loans Granted Negro Farmers

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.
Sat. 9-14-57
Granted

WASHINGTON, D. C.—More than 4,000 colored farmers received initial loans totaling close to $10 million from the Farmers Home Administration during the fiscal year 1957, the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimated this week.

The estimate does not include those colored farmers who were already operating their farms with Farmers Home Credit and received additional loans, or those who received emergency credit in drought and flood areas.

* * *

THE LOANS went for a variety of needs designed to develop and improve family-type farms. A total of 153 farmers obtained loans to buy farms of their own, or to enlarge or develop their present holdings into economic units; 111 received loans to build or repair their homes; 16 were given credit aid in carrying out sound soil and water conservation practices; and 3,875 obtained loans to buy machinery, livestock, fertilizer, insecticides, and to take care of other operating expenses.

Since the loan programs were established 20 years ago, the Farmers Home Administration and its predecessor agency have made loans to 280,000 Negro farm families. These total more than $300 million. More than 10,000 of the families received loans to purchase family-type farms of their own.

ALTOGETHER, during the 1957 fiscal year, white and colored farmers borrowed $356.3 million from Farmers Home. During the same period, farmers repaid the agency $294,623,000 on previous loans, leaving a balance outstanding as of June of $1,013,180,000.

The loans were extended to farm families who had or could obtain the land, labor, and other resources needed for successful farming, but who could not obtain from local sources the credit needed to finance their operations. All loans were accompanied, to the extent necessary, by technical assistance in planning and carrying out sound farming operations.

* * *

DURING FISCAL 1957, in connection with the Rural Development Program, the agency was authorized to make operating loans to farmers who have part-time off-farm employment, and development loans to farmers who own less than family-type farms. The agency was also authorized to make real estate loans primarily for refinancing debts.

Approximately $4,533.00 was loaned for operating expenses to 3,045 farmers who had part-time off-farm employment. These included 659 colored farmers. The agency also advanced $3,072,000 for farm development to 382 farmers who own less than family-type farms.

Farmers' Guide On Taxes Announced By Director Roundtree

Nashville Tenn.
Fri. 11-22-57

A new edition of the Farmers' Tax Guide will be available cost-free within a few days from county agents of the Department of Agriculture and district offices of the Internal Revenue Service, which annually publishes the booklet, it was announced today by District Director J. M. Roundtree of the tax agency.

As in past years, the 64 page publication incorporates many features of interest to farmers and will include this year interpretations on several new rulings regarding farm tax problems. In preparing the booklet the Revenue Service had the advice, assistance and cooperation of revenue agents in farm areas, the Federal extension services of Federal land grant colleges.

A million copies of the booklet have been printed for nationwide distribution. Of these, 750,000 will be distributed by county agents and the remaining 250,000 will be obtainable from offices of the Revenue Service, Mr. Rountree said.

He pointed out that previous publications of this character had been highly commended by farmers and numerous farm organizations including the National Grange, The American Farm Bureau Federation, the Farmers' Union and the National Livestock Tax Committee.

Numerous examples of how to prepare portions of a farm return are included in the guide, which also deals with such important farm tax subjects as farm inventories, depreciation, capital gain and losses, casualty losses and thefts, trades, condemnations and diseased livestock, and soil and water conservation.

March 18 Termed Red Circle Day For Farmer

Daily World Wed. 3-13-57
Atlanta Ga.

WASHINGTON — (INS) — March 18 is a red circle day for the farmer's calendar. The Agriculture Department then will estimate prospective plantings for 1957 in its "March intentions report."

The report will show how mony acres farmers planned, about Mar. 1 to plant in corn, spring wheat, oats, barley, flaxseed, rice, sorghums, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, tobacco, dry beans and peas, soybeans, peanuts, hay and sugar beets.

These 16 principal spring-sown crops account in a normal year for 75 to 80 per cent of all crops grown in the United States.

Approximately 80,000 farm men and women throughout the country took part in gathering data for the report.

In analyzing the data, the department's crop reporting board will take into consideration the probable effects of various farm programs. These include the soil bank and acreage allotment and marketing quota programs for the six-basics--corn, wheat, tobacco, cotton, rice and peanuts.

The report is issued early enough to permit farmers to change their planting plans if they believe it would be wise to do so. Of course, farmers who fill out the questionniares may change their minds, too about planting plans when they finish reading the March 18 report.

Also to consider are the weather, price changes, labor supply, financial conditions and changes in agricultural programs. All these factors may effect the actual acreage of any crop.

Nontheless, over the 34 years that "prospective plantings" has been issued, it has been an excellent indicator of the general trend in crop acreage each year.

Farmers in Line for Payments

Times-Picayune
Thurs. 3-22-57

WASHINGTON, March 21 (AP)—The agriculture department Thursday reported farmers have agreed so far to retire enough land under the soil bank program this year to draw more than a half billion dollars in government payments.

Through March 15, the department said, farmers had made agreements to take out of production 20,354,544 acres of land from such surplus crops as wheat, corn, cotton, rice and tobacco. If they carry out the agreements, payments would amount to $570,717,750.

Officials said the department expects to have final figures on its sign up of farmers under the program within a couple of weeks.

The number of acres which would be retired from each crop and the maximum payments, respectively, included:

Wheat 12,614,697 acres and $228,437,336; corn 4,497,483 acres and $162,007,568; cotton 2,985,394 acres and $151,535,194; Rice 178,668 acres and $11,438,891, and tobacco 78,102 acres and $17,298,761.

The amount of land that would be retired from cotton and the payments, respectively, by states included:

Alabama, 265,190 acres and $15,169,799; Arizona, 42,142 acres and 5,794,470; Arkansas, 187,862 acres and $10,444,066; California, 73,566 acres and $7,405,650; Florida, 15,658 acres and $792,091; Georgia, 287,943 acres and $15,339,610; Kentucky, 1058 acres and $69,264; Louisiana, 120,803 acres and $8,231,879; Mississippi 251,134 acres and $17,094,958; Missouri, 17,857 acres and $1,121,737; New Mexico, 13,833 acres and $1,437,071; North Carolina, 121,557 acres and $7,184,680; Oklahoma, 197,306 acres and $6,036,724; South Carolina, 198,361 acres and $11,724,336; Tennessee, 68,052 acres and $4,246,409; Texas, 1,118,805 acres and $39,177,839 and Virginia 3474 acres and $211,615.

FIRE ANT ARMIES ALARM THE SOUTH

Times P. 76

Argentine Pest Ruins Crops, Kills Birds and Frightens People—Help Is Asked

Tues. 3-19-57

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, March 18—A farmer in Bibb County, Alabama, wrote a pointed letter to his Representative in Congress. It read:

"The Government should be building as big a defense against fire ants as they are the Russians. The ants already have invaded."

New York

A House Agriculture subcommittee heard about the farmer and the Argentina fire ants today. The members also heard please by House members from Southern states for the Federal Government to do more to stamp out the ants before they ruin more crops, fields and lawns and scare more people.

The tiny insect has been in the South for nearly twenty-five years. It is believed to have been brought by ship from Argentina to the port of Mobile, Ala. In the last two years, however, it has broken out of its beachhead and spread rapidly north and west.

There are heavy infestations in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Now it has been reported as far north as Wake County, North Carolina, and as far west as Harris County, Texas. Experts says it can spread as far as climate will permit, probably into southern Pennsylvania.

The House subcommittee, headed by Representative Thomas G. Abernethy, Democrat of Mississippi, heard how the ants destroy seeds and young plants and often extend their attacks to young animals, including beef calves and poultry. Witnesses also told of the killing of wild life, including quail and other birds.

Southerners quoted letters from mothers telling that children had been bitten as they played on infested lawns. The ant slits the skin and injects a fluid that causes fiery pain and raises angry welts.

Dr. M. R. Clarkson, deputy administrator of the Federal Agricultural Research Service, observed that "anyone who has experienced the sting of these insects is acutely aware of the aptness of the name fire ant." He said the sting was particularly serious for small children.

The ants build mounds six inches to two feet in height. Representative Armistead I. Selden, Democrat of Alabama, told the House group that in some areas laborers had refused to work in fields sown with the mounds. He said that there were 150,000 mounds at Maxwell Air Force Base near Montgomery and that airmen there had been hospitalized from the ant bits.

Negro Farmers Hard Hit by Hate Groups

Eagle P. 1
Thurs. 3-21-57
Tulsa, Okla.

Citizens' Councils Put Pressure on Banks, Merchants

By Alice A. Dunnigan

WASHINGTON, (ANP) — The organization and growth of the White Citizens Councils has had a most devastating effect upon southern farm workers, according to a report recently made to the board of directors of the National Sharecroppers Fund.

The report compiled by Miss Fay Bennett, executive secretary of the organization, pointed out that the White Citizens Councils now have an approximate membership of 350,000 in all the southern states. The movement, which she claimed is "dedicated to the maintenance of white supremacy" has drawn its largest following from the black belt (rich farming soil) areas.

Contrast in This Area

"The greatest contrast between wealthy plantation owners and poor farm folk—both white and Negro—exists in these areas," the report continued. "In these (farm) areas poverty and lack of education have produced the most bigotry and the most easily aroused white mob. In contrast, the Negro has demonstrated a civilized restraining in in the face of severe provocation."

"These Councils have acted in two ways to preserve the status quo: (1) overtly, by mob action to prevent enforcement of court orders for school integration; (2) covertly, by economic pressures against Negroes who are enrolled voters or otherwise indicate insistence on rights guaranteed them by the Constitution."

Example at Clinton

As an example, the report pointed to the Clinton, Tenn., school controversy which almost succeeded in overthrowing civil law in that community because 12 Negro students enrolled in the high school there. "The mob (which incited most of the violence) was made up primarily of the poor farm folk in the hill country outside Clinton."

And on the second point, the report stated that numerous cases of "economic pressure" have come to the attention of the Sharecroppers Fund. In many cases the Fund made loans to tenant and independent small farmers who were about to lose their property, farm equipment and other possessions.

One of these cases involved a man's voting right. Another was based upon a man's membership in the NAACP. A third was due to a farmer's leadership among local Negro farmers working to set up a cooperative organization for their mutual help.

NSF Raised Money

Last December NSF raised a substantial sum in a two-week period to prevent the foreclosure of a valuable farm in Mississippi owned by Negroes who were facing stiff pressure.

Because of its support for economic justice and civil rights of Negroes and whites in the South, the National Sharecroppers Fund has been listed among a specially selected group of six organizations and individuals "who have done the most during the year to advance the cause of harmonious race relations." A distinguished panel of judges made the selection.

Government Helps Farmers Market Record Turkey Crop

Defender Chicago, Ill. p. 12
Sat. 5-4-37

Growers are raising more turkeys this year than ever before, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture is making every effort to help them market their crop. Recently, out to prove that "it's turkey time the year round," the department staged an experiment called "Turkey Trot" in its cafeterias here in Washington.

"Turkey Trot"—employing merchandising devices for attracting the attention of prospective consumers—was planned by food tradesmen in the Food Distribution division of the Agricultural Marketing service.

Behind "Turkey Trot" lay the conviction that all-out sales efforts can greatly increase the amount of turkey served in cafeterias, and other mass-feeding establishments.

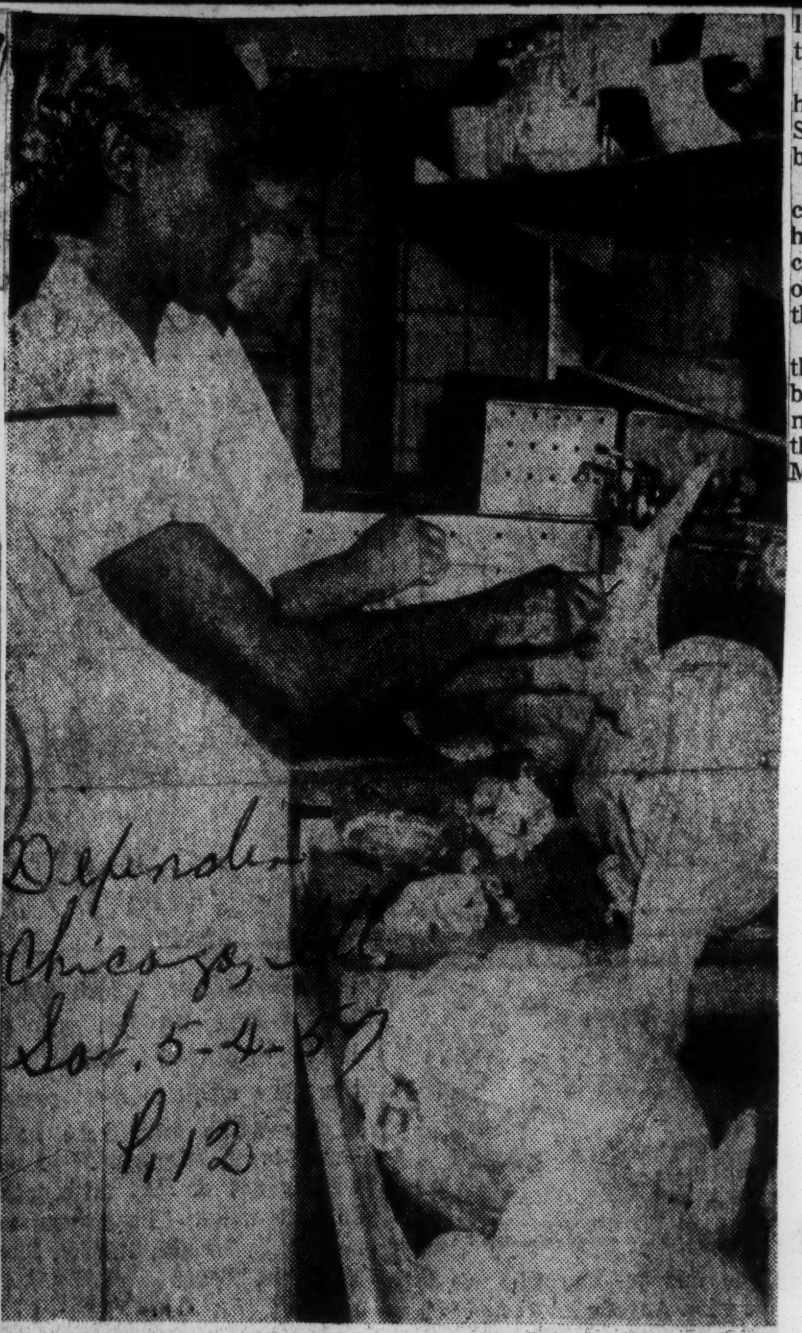
With the cooperation of cafeteria manager Everett L. Lommasson and his staff, the test was run on Thursday, April 4 — plenty of time for reporting its results to other mass-feeders who might want to plan similar events in advance of "Midsummer Turkey Time," the merchandising event the turkey industry has arranged for July 25 to August 4.

While marketing specialists were drumming up consumer interest with posters, bulletins, menu board signs, table tents, and personnel badges, Manager Lommasson stocked up with 30 large sized turkeys for the roast turkey special.

Came the day, and luncheon customers lined up early. By 1:30—30 minutes ahead of closing time—all the roast turkey was gone.

The success story is now being told through the institutional press, and a "do-it-yourself" kit has been assembled. Many other mass-feeders will use these proved methods in "turkey days" that will be tied to the turkey growers' promotion, "Midsummer Turkey Time," July 25 to August 4.

TURKEYS FOR PROMOTION study by marketing specialists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture are being placed in a refrigerator of USDA cafeterias by George T. Clay and Lyle Brown, right. The study, which ended up with 30 large turkeys being consumed during part of one lunch hour at Agriculture, proved that with proper promotion, turkey can be made year-round main dish.



PREPARING TURKEYS for roasting in a turkey promotion program at the U. S. Department of Agriculture cafeterias are Miss Maybelle Wright and Mrs. Alice Warren. Thirty of these birds were served long before the lunch hour was over, proving that with proper promotion, turkey can be made a year-round main dish. —USDA Photos

Sugar May Rush Pigs To Butcher At Faster Pace

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tenn.
June 20-37
p. 15

NEW ORLEANS, June 9.—(U.P.)—A discovery that pigs have a sweet tooth may create the biggest market in America for the sugar industry and boost dwindling sales which have been hard hit by foreign imports.

Gilbert Durbin, general manager of the American Sugar Cane League, said Wednesday sugar-eating pigs gain weight faster than pigs that aren't fed sugared rations, their "feed efficiency" improved and they are sped to market earlier and retain more weight during shipment.

If further experiments bear out what is strongly believed, that a pig's sweet tooth is his Achilles heel, then the pig of tomorrow will be on the butcher's block sooner than his corn fed predecessors.

Mr. Durbin said researchers at Louisiana State University's department of animal industry tested sugar rations on pigs and found they gained weight much faster. The sugar also improved what animal feeders call the "feed efficiency," that is less sugar pounds are needed to produce pig pounds.

"There are about 80 million hogs slaughtered in the United States every year," Mr. Durbin said.

"If the feed given the hogs contained 30 per cent sugar, the hogs in the United States would consume about 10 million tons of sugar annually, more than all the people in the nation eat."

Researchers also disclosed that hogs fed sugar 48 hours before shipment to market lost much less weight than hogs that had not been sugar fed, Mr. Durbin said.

1957 Will Further Test Skill And Ingenuity Of Negro Farmers, Says U. S. Agricultural Official

Washington, D. C., Dec. 31—The skill and ingenuity of Negro farmers, like that of many other small farm operators of the Nation, will further be tested in 1957, says P. H. Stone, an administrative official of the Federal Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Last year was somewhat better than 1955 for most of these farmers, Mr. Stone points out, largely because of their increased skill in farming and farm management practices. But, he adds, intensive effort will be required in '57.

Counting heavily on cotton and tobacco as their main cash crops, most of the country's 462,000 colored farmers are affected by acreage allotments and marketing quotas on these crops, Mr. Stone says.

And although cotton acreage allotments have been eased by about 200,000 acres to aid small operators, this advantage could be offset for home who do outside farm work for big planters, the Extension official explains, by the increased participation of large farmers in the Soil Bank.

And flue-cured tobacco farmers, he adds, are in a tighter spot this year with acreage allotments cut by 20 percent, or from 887,600 acres to 712,600. He says one southwest Virginia tobacco grower complained that he didn't know what he was going to do. Said that in the past he had always been able to make up the acreage cuts by putting into effect improvements in his production and handling methods, but thinks he has done all he can in this direction.

However, Mr. Stone says that most of the farmers he has visited throughout the South seem to be in good spirits. "They are expecting prices for their products to hold up in '57." And he thinks that with the number of colored farmers declining at the rate of more than 20,000 annually, the 900 Negro Extension workers will be able to work more intensively with some of the families.

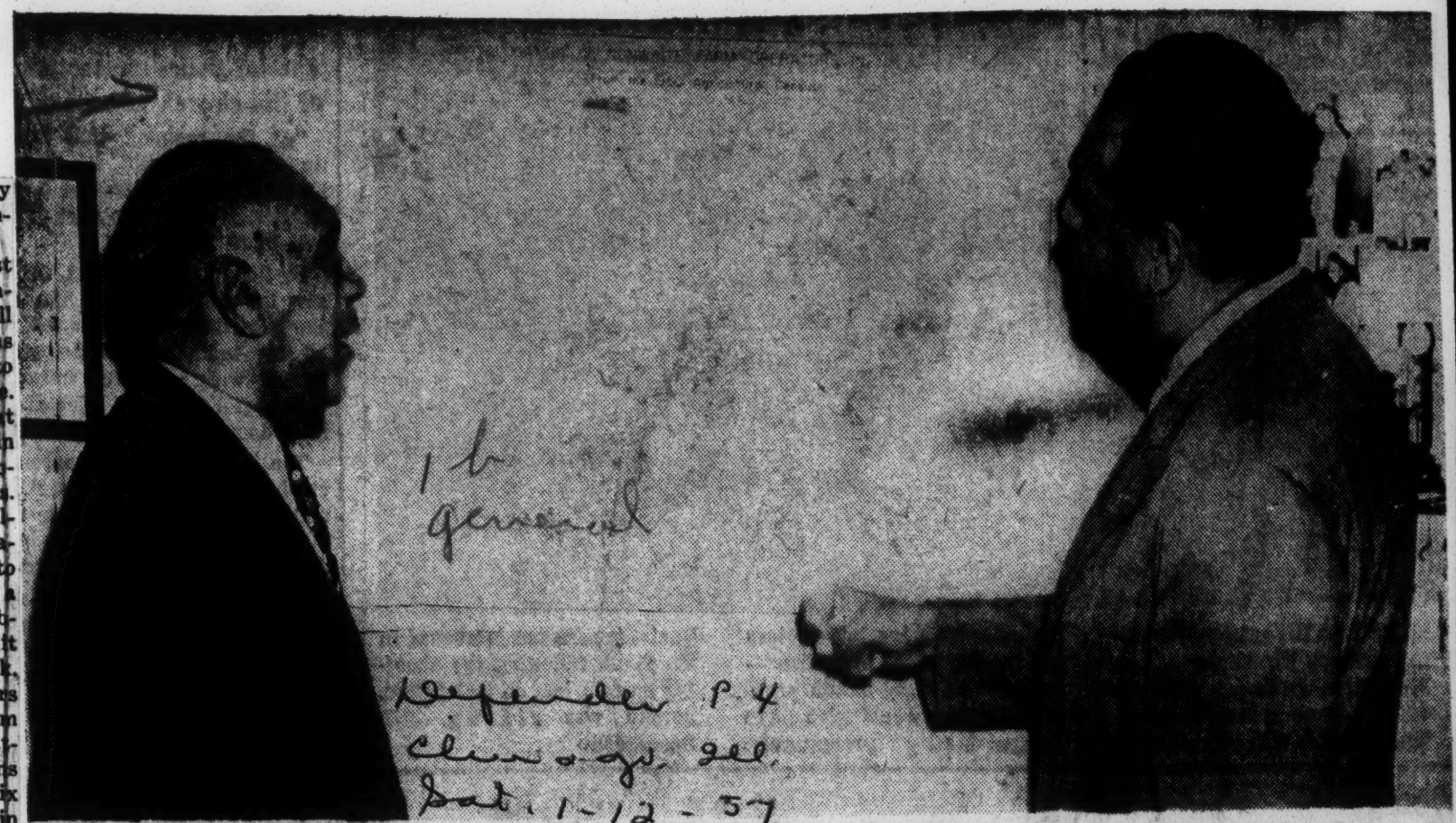
The Extension official says a number of farmers may need to supplement their income by further diversifying their farms, or by finding more outside farm and nonfarm employment.

L. J. Washington, agriculturist of the Farmers Home Administration, says recent legislation will enable his agency to make loans to more farmers who are unable to obtain adequate credit elsewhere. For example, he points out that part-time farmers may now obtain loans from Farmers Home for operating and developing their farms.

A. H. Fuhr, information specialist of the Farm Credit Administration, says his agency continues to stand ready to assist farmers on a sound basis with their credit problems through the Production Credit Associations and the Land Bank.

Another assist for small farmers is the Rural Development Program through which new ways of attacking low-income farm problems are being developed. Forty-six counties and eight trade areas in 24 States are now taking part in this program.

But Mr. Stone thinks that the principal means by which small farmers will hold their own or advance during '57 will be through their skill and ingenuity in diversifying their farms, improving their farming practices, and in finding nonfarm employment. He says Extension farm and home demonstration agents have helped farm families to a good start in this direction.



1957 WILL TEST the skill and ingenuity of Negro farmers, says P. H. Stone (left) assistant to the assistant administrator of the Federal Extension Service. He and L. J. Washington, agriculturist of the Farmers Home Administration, are discussing some of the problems of the Negro farmers as they look at a map of the area in which most of them are concentrated.

Quota On Crops Creates Problem

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'57 Soil Bank Regulations Announced; Tenants Projected

Daily World, Atlanta, Ga. 1-8-57

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Regulations covering the Acreage Reserve program of the Soil Bank for 1957 were announced last week by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson.

"Most of the changes that have been made," said the Secretary, "are to insure producers a fair and equitable opportunity to participate in the 1957 program."

Despite the late start of the program in its first year of operation, farmers placed slightly over 12 million acres of basic crops in the 1956 Acreage Reserve, Secretary Benson pointed out. Larger participation is expected this year.

Among the more important provisions of the new regulations are:

(1) A national allocation of 1957 acreage funds among the commodities to be covered in the 1957 program—wheat, $750 685,000; corn $217,500,000; upland cotton, $217,000,000; and rice, $14 000,000.

(2) A breakdown of these commodity allocations among the producing States and counties within them.

(3) Establishment of maximums on the amount of acreage of a particular crop that an individual farmer can place in the program. For example, a cotton farmer may originally enter only 10 acres or 30 per cent of his allotment, whichever is larger.

4) Discontinuance of minimum acreage limitations on the amount of land that may be entered in the program, except those already in effect for 1957 wheat.

Under the Soil Bank law, the rights of tenants and sharecroppers are protected. Participation in the program may not be approved, if the landlord or farm operator has to reduce the number of tenants or sharecroppers on his place in order to do so.

A new provision specifies that if a tenant or sharecropper leaves a farm voluntarily or for some reason other than being forced off, the failure to replace such a tenant or sharecropper will not bar the landlord or farm operator from an Acreage Reserve agreement.

Average Acreage Reserve payments to farms this year will range from $20.04 per acre on wheat acreage taken out of production to $345.42 per acre on cigar binder (52).

The average rate on upland cotton acreage is $91.16, and on flue-cured tobacco $255.42 per acre. The $217,500,000 allocated for the participation of cotton farmers, covers payment for as much as four million acres of cotton land.

Deadline for signing 1957 Acreage Reserve agreements will be March 1 for upland and tobacco farmers.

ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS RESULT IN DROP IN NUMBER OF TENANTS

A study just issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture shows that acreage allotments, marketing quotas, and associated price-support programs that have been in effect during the past two years have had little influence on total farm production although the number of tenants and croppers and the production of specific commodities were modified considerably.

There was an 8 per cent reduction in the total output of the four allotment crops: cotton, wheat, corn and rice betweeen 1953 and 1955, and increases in the production of such non-allotment crops as soybeans, oats, grain sorghum, and barley.

As for the decline in the number of cropper and share-tenant families, cotton farmers report that many of these left the farm from 1953 to 1955 chiefly because of reduction in cotton acreages.

Thirty-four per cent left the Mississippi Delta 21 per cent went from the Clay Hills of Miss'ssippi and Tennessee, and 17 per cent left the Southern Piedmont of South Carolina and Georgia.

AFRICAN FARMERS IN KENYA UPPING COFFEE AND TEA OUTPUT

With the Mau Mau uprising settled, Kenya, Africa, farmers are increasing their production of a number of crops, including coffee and tea, says the December issue of Foreign Agriculture, a U. S. Department of Agriculture publication.

Although most of the increases are taking place on the European-owned farms some epaxnsion also is observed on African-owned land. For example, between 1951 and 1954, Africans increased their coffee acreage from 1,725 to 7,759. Nearly 30,000 of them are now licensed coffee growers.

4-H'ERS GROSS NEARLY $1,100 PER ACRE OFF TOBACCO PROJECTS

Thirty-eight Virginia Negro 4-H club members grossed $28,057 last year off 26.4 acres of flue-cured tobacco reports Ross W. Newsome, State Extension agent of Virginia.

Club members from nine counties took part in the Junior Tobacco Show and Sale Contest. The purpose of the contest, says Mr. Newsome, is to encourage young farmers to produce high quality tobacco and develop improved methods of handling and sorting.

The clubbers got a total yield of 53,964 pounds of their 26 acres. The price they received ranged from 47 to 57 cents per pound.

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U.S. ACTS TO BOOST LOW FARMER INCOME

Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn. 1-12-57

It Makes South The No. 1 Economic Problem

NEW PROGRAM PUSHED

By WALTER DURHAM

Low farm income in the South still makes the area the nation's No. 1 economic problem.

There is too much pressure on the land—too many people are trying to make a living on uneconomic farm units. Low income farmers contribute little to society, pay few taxes, have small purchasing power.

Some Earn Less Than $1,000

Many Southern farmers have an annual income of less than $1,000. Their level of living index is the lowest in the nation. Half the farms of the Mid-South are classified as low in production.

These facts were developed in a recent study made by the United States Department of Agriculture, C. A. Vines, associated director of the Arkansas Agricultural Extension Service, told members of the Memphis Agricultural Club at the Chisca yesterday.

Speaking on "The Rural Development Program of the Federal Government," Mr. Vines said a co-ordinated effort is now being made by all agencies in USDA and other Government departments to improve the economy of low income areas.

The program, set up at a meeting of agricultural leaders in Memphis in August, 1955, is being developed in a number of pilot counties in the South, with the assistance of state and county committees, Mr. Vines said.

Need More Industry

The program is tailored to meet the needs of each section, Mr. Vines explained. It calls for increased income through the rearrangement of farm enterprises with full utilization of all resources of individual farms, part time employment off the farm, and in some cases full time employment off the farm.

"More industry in the South is essential if we are to hold our population," the Arkansas farm leader insisted. "Larger farms and a more diversified and efficient agriculture are necessary if we are to solve our problems."

Pilot counties in Arkansas are Phillips, Ouachita and Van Buren, where some major changes in farm and home management have already been made by more than 100 families, Mr. Vines said. New industries are being brought in and marketing facilities established to increase farm income.

While optimistic over longtime prospects for agriculture in the South, Mr. Vines said he does not expect "overnight improvement" in the farm income situation.

"The present situation," he said, "did not develop in just one or two generations. It will not be corrected in a short time."

HIGHER INCOMES SEEN ON FARMS

Local-Morning Wed. 5-1-57

4-Pct. Rise in Agriculture Earnings Predicted

New Orleans, 4-30

WASHINGTON, April 30 (AP)—Farm prices went up last month and Secretary of Agriculture Benson predicts farm income this year will be higher than last.

The Agriculture Department said today prices received by farmers increased 2 per cent during the month ended April 15.

Benson told a Senate Appropriations Committee he expects a 4 per cent rise in agricultural income this year as compared with last year.

Where Prices Rise

The current report from the department said prices went up mainly on cattle, hogs, apples, tomatoes and cotton. Lower prices were reported for milk, strawberries, snap beans and oranges.

While prices received by farmers increased in April to the highest point since last July—241 per cent of the 1910-1914 average—, prices paid by farmers for commodities and services reached the highest point ever—296 per cent of the 1910-1914 average.

The increase in farm product prices in the last 12 months has failed to keep pace with the rise in prices of commodities and services bought by farmers. As a result, the mid-April parity ratio of 81, while up 1 per cent from March, was 2 per cent lower than a year ago.

Price Index

Benson, in his testimony, said: The price index in March of this year was up 4 per cent from March of 1956. A further increase in farm operators' net income is expected. The increase of 1957 over 1956 may be in the neighborhood of 4 per cent. This would be equal to the increase of 1956 over 1955 for a total of 8 per cent in two years."

Benson predicted that livestock prices will continue to average higher than last year, but said the crop price average will be lower.

He was before the committee to testify in support of President Eisenhower's request for $4,800,000,000 dollars to finance the Agriculture Department in the fiscal year beginning July 1.

SECRETARY BENSON SCORES FARM LAW

Memphis Appeal P. 23

East Tennesseans Told New Legislation Is Needed

Thurs. 6-20-57

1954 ACT IS 'OBSOLETE'

Memphis Tenn.

By The United Press

KNOXVILLE, June 19.—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson Wednesday called the flexible price support program unworkable and again urged changes in the nation's basic farm law.

"In the light of 25 years' experience," he told the 84th annual East Tennessee Farmers convention, "we must conclude that acreage allotments and marketing quotas have not controlled production as intended.

"The old basic farm legislation enacted in 1933 sought to control production with acreage allotments in order to achieve a high level of price support," Secretary Benson said.

Disadvantages Listed

"The acreage-control price-support program has cut acreage, taken decisions out of the farmers' hands, priced our crops out of the market, reduced income from the basic crops, piled up farm surplus, stockpiles and increased costs."

Secretary Benson repeated essential points of new legislation he proposed to the Senate Agriculture Committee a few weeks ago. "I have recommended that farmers be given more freedom to make their decisions with respect to the acreage they wish to plant, that there be wider latitude in the establishing of price support levels."

The farm law Benson now classes as "obsolete" and "not now working" is the flexible price support program which he endorsed strongly in the Agricultural Act of 1954. He has called for its elimination.

Development Program Cited

Secretary Benson cited the two-year-old Rural Development Program in five Tennessee pilot counties, Hardin, Grainger, Macon, Houston and Marion.

"The purpose of the program is to open wider the doors of opportunity to those rural people with the lowest incomes," he said.

The rogram already has progressed far enough, Benson said, to point up these "significant facts":

"Good research and extension programs, coupled with supervised credit and technical assistance, can help an enterprising farmer get ahead.

"Non-farm employment offers a good opportunity to increase income in many areas.

"Rural people often do not have to leave the farms in order to take off-farm jobs.

"The betterment of low income areas must be a long-range job. At best, it is a slow process."

U. S. Farmers Told How To Protect Families, Crops From Bomb Fall-Out

News + Courier June 6-2-57 Charleston, S. C. P. 3-a

WASHINGTON, June 1 (AP)—The nation's farmers were advised by the government today on steps they may take to protect themselves, their families, livestock and crops from radioactive fall-out from nuclear weapons.

A farmers' bulletin entitled "Defense Against Radioactive Fall-out on the Farm" said radioactive particles produced by atomic and hydrogen bombs may give off destructive rays which, in certain situations, can injure—or kill—human beings and animals, and can make farm lands and crops dangerous to use.

The bulletin was prepared with the aid of the Atomic Energy Commission, the Civil Defense Administration and the Public Health Service.

PROVIDE FOR SAFETY

"In the event of an enemy attack, first provide for your own safety and that of your family and neighbors," the bulletin advised.

To do this, it said, the farmer may initially have to ignore his livestock, crops and land. The best protection, it explained, is to remain indoors, preferably in a basement or cellar.

It said livestock housed in barns and other farm buildings during fall-out have a better chance of surviving effect of radiation than those not sheltered. A reasonably well-built shelter prevents fall-out from settling on the animals' bodies and may reduce the intensity of external radiation as well as protect them against eating contaminated food.

CATTLE UNDER COVER

"Get your dairy cattle under cover first," the department advised. "If they eat fall-out, or drink it in water, some of the radioactive material will be in their milk."

It said farmers may have to give cows contaminated feed if no other is available. Milk from such cows would not be usable, it said, but once the animals went back on clean feed the amount of radioactive materials in their milk would progressively diminish.

The bulletin said radioactive materials might show up in the eggs if hens eat contaminated feed. But most of this material would collect in the shells, it said, adding that very little would collect in the yolks and whites.

DON'T DESTROY FEED

Farmers were advised not to destroy any contaminated animal feeds, unless told by defense authorities to do so. Such feed may be safe for consumption if they can be stored for a period of time to allow the radioactivity to decay.

The bulletin said farmers may not be able to manage and cultivate land safely for some time because of radiation hazard. It said that radioactive materials that are deposited on the edible portions of plants or absorbed through roots are a potential long-term hazard to human beings and animals.

MORE

"Plants growing in soils deficient in calcium would absorb more radioactive strontium than those growing in soils abundant in calcium, other things being equal," the department said.

Cultivated land probably would remain hazardous a shorter time than range and pasture land, it said. Cultivation would cover most of the radioactive particles. Contaminated land can be treated, it said, through intensive applications of lime and through leaching of porous land with water. But proper treatment would be a matter, the bulletin said, for a soil scientist to determine.

The department said that if the fall-out should be heavy on pasture lands, it probably would be advisable to plow the soil deep, add lime and reseed.

MAY HUNT PRODUCTIVITY

The bulletin also stated that fall-out might reduce the productivity of land.

The department said most vegetables would be marketable and should not be destroyed without testing for radioactivity. It said that if fall-out is heavy, ripe, thin-skinned fruits may be lost because of the personal hazard in harvesting them.

The bulletin emphasized that study of the effects of fall-out on agriculture is a continuing project and that some of the recommendations made now may have to be changed in the light of future research.

Associated Press Wirephoto

SHEAR PLEASURE . . . Tranquilizing drugs make shearing a joy in the opinion of Palisades, Wash., rancher Doyle Goldy, working on a sheep given a shot 20 minutes earlier. Experimenting, Goldy finds the drug too costly for farm use, but a labor saver in wrestling sheep.

National Whirligig

Advertiser P. 4-A

Fri. 7-5-57

By Ray Tucker

Memphis, Ala.

WASHINGTON.

A POPULAR World War I ballad explains why the once dominant farm bloc has lost the power which it used to possess on Capitol Hill and in American politics. It ran:

"How you gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen Paree?"

Since the days of that relatively polite conflict, the farm boys who served in World War II and Korea have seen many more bizarre and exciting places than the Bois de Bologne and Montmartre. And they have flocked by the millions to the cities and factories as displaced and disenchanted voters.

Farm Vote Not What It Used To Be

As a result, the so-called "farm vote,"

which was once the feared and favored of both major parties has declined until it is almost negligible. It is doubtful if it can swing a single state, even in the historic agricultural areas from the Appalachian to the Rocky Mountains.

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FARM POPULATION—Iowa, for instance, is classed as the nation's greatest farm state, with its state anthem a paean to waving corn. It was the region which Russian agricultural experts most wanted to visit when they came to this country a year or so ago. But only 25% of the population now reside and work "on the land."

Since 1920, a couple of years after the ballad mentioned was written, the nation's total farm population has dropped from 30% to less than 13% now. And many people listed by the census takers as farmers get their income from other sources than the soil.

The decline in farm population is even more significant, politically and economically, when measured geographically. The following table, which shows the percentage of fall-off, indicates that none of the four great geographic sections are primarily interested in agriculture:

	1920	1954
Northeast	8.6	4.7
North Central	29.7	15.2
South	51.3	22.2
West	24.7	9.1

Thus, the farmers seem to be losing friends everywhere.

★ ★ ★

BALLOT BOX REVOLUTION—What are the present and prospective consequences of the farmers' steady loss of political power?

For one thing, there will be less legislation beneficial to them at this session than at any time in the last quarter of a century. When politicians and candidates grasp the meaning of this ballot-box revolution, they will be less inclined to curry favor with promises of special subsidies, soil bank benefits and high parity payments. President Eisenhower and Secretary Ezra Taft Benson have taken a small step in this direction.

A major party, fixing its eyes on the sections where the votes grow, will disregard the farm vote states, with their smaller electoral college totals. They can afford to, and they probably will, appeal specifically to the factory workers and city consumers.

★ ★ ★

BLOC SPLIT — Another farm bloc weakness is that it has split wide apart. The old Farmer-Labor Coalition has collapsed because the farmers blame high prices for what they buy on the unions' wage policies, while labor complains over high food costs. They stare daggers at each other, and labor has the votes.

The alliance of Southern and Western farmers—cotton and corn—has vanished. Dixie growers charge that, in distributing soil bank payments before the 1956 presidential election, Benson favored Western Republicans over the producers of cotton, tobacco and peanuts. The record substantiates this accusation.

But in the long run it is changing conditions— population shifts, economic pressures and improved production techniques — rather than partisanship that accounts for the farm bloc's downfall, and possibly a better break for city consumers.

Farm Homes In South Taking On New Look Through Government Assistance

By SHERMAN BRISCOE

USDA Information Specialist For ANP

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) — Negro farm housing in the South although still rundown, is now being face-lifted at an increased pace partly as a result of sound long-time credit aid being made available to farm families by the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Not only is the housing taking on a new look, inside and out, with tiled bathrooms and long-needed multi-purpose utility rooms, but farming also is looking up more sharply.

These observations are based on what I saw during a recent two-week tour of rural areas in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Visited 19 Families

Altogether, I visited 19 families whom the Farmers Home had helped to get on their feet. I sat in their comfortable homes and heard the stories of their problems and their triumphs. I walked over their farms, observing the soil and water conservation practices they had established; such as terraces, contour tillage, cover crops, and drainage systems. I saw, too, their improved pastures with grade and purebred livestock grazing in them.

Under sheds out of the weather, or out in the fields providing the horsepower for spring plowing were tractors purchased with loans from the Farmers Home. And there were combines here and there, and haybalers and half-ton trucks and peanut pickers, too.

In addition to giving farmers guidance in planning sound systems of farming, the Farmers Home also makes loans with which families may put the planning into effect.

In four out of five of the homes I visited, the head of the household was relatively young — in his late 20's, 30's or early 40's. A number of them were veterans who had seen service over seas during World War II. And all of them were ambitious and determined to make good.

Take Veteran Percy Everson of Disputanta, Va. He was busy developing and fencing improved pastures of ladino clover, orchard grass, and despedoza with part of an $8,000 loan he had received from Farmers Home to build a home and a barn and to improve his farm.

Pastures Doing Fine

The pastures were coming along fine, but there wasn't a cow in sight. Mr. Everson is going into livestock production right this time. He is getting his feed supply first, then he'll buy some cows. He went into livestock raising wrong shortly after the war. He brought three Herefords brood cows and had to sell them within two months because his grazing ran out and he had no money to buy feed for them.

Willie Lee Amerson of Bartow, Ga., says proudly that he is one of the best farmers in all Georgia, and the production on his 186-acre farm proves it. Last year he sold $2,700 worth of buttermilk, door to door, $3,400 worth of hogs, and $1,850 worth of cotton. His hog farrowing houses and pastures are as up-to-date as those at the USDA's Belsville Research Center; and he has a State Dairy Show trophy o speak for the quality of his dairy herd.

Louisiana's farmer of the year, Clarence Broussard of Lafayette, boasts 1,250 pounds of lint cotton to the acre in an area where most farmers are glad to get 400 pounds. But Mr. Broussard is no one-crop farmer. In addition to producing 25 bales of cotton on 10 acres. he raises 2,000 bushels of sweet potatoes a year, and $1,000 worth of cayenne pepper, not to mention his hogs and beef cattle.

Six More To College

The Broussards have one daughter at Tuskegee and another at Southern university. Six more will be heading for college later from their trim, white frame house which sits in a beautifully landscaped yard that stretches away 20 feet to the road.

In fact it was the housing of all the things I saw which impressed me most. Looking at some of the houses from which the families had moved, it was hard for me to realize that their former occupants could have had dreams in the back of their heads of the kind of homes they had built, yet there were the homes: neat, clean, and as modern as any city dwelling.

Briscoe Stackhouse of Fairmont, N.C., for example, had two bathrooms and a knotty pine multi-purpose utility room in the 67-foot rambler he had built for his family of 11. Members of the family use the utility room to prepare vegetables for canning and home freezing, and to wash up and change their clothes when they come from the field.

Made An Old House New

In Carson, Va., I visited 33-year-old Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Graves who had made an old house look like new. In the spotless kitchen they had their record book out and were taking inventory of the jars and jars of fruits and vegetables Mrs. Graves had canned.

Sitting by the television in the attractive living room of his Pickens, Miss., home at the end of the day were 31-year-old John H. Malone and his wife and one of their six children. Out in their pastures grazed 33 head of Hereford cattle. He had already paid his 1957 annual note to Farmers Home 10 months ahead.

As I sit here at my typewriter, referring to my notes, and recalling my pleasant visits with these families and with the State, area, and county officials of the Farmers Home who are working with them, I wish I could say that all the other farmers are doing just as well, and that the problem of small low-income farmers has been solved. But this simply is not true. The mass of small farmers, especially Negro farmers, still earn less than $1,000 a year and live in shabby houses. However, increasingly these houses stand empty, or bulging with hay for acres of beef cattle.

The families I visited were not a representative sample. They were examples of one aspect of Government help in promoting family-type farms, but more than that, they were symbols of hope and directional beacons for their communities. These homes will be the center of interest during the observance of National Home Demonstration Week, April 28 to May 4. Neighbors will visit to get pointers and stimulation for their own dreams.

Million Dollars Loan

Last year the Farmers Home made loans totaling $250 million to 93,000 similar farm families to buy or develop family-type farms, or to purchase equipment, livestock, and supplies with which to operate their farms, or to build homes and farm buildings. In addition, it made emergency loans of $86 million to some 45,000 other farmers.

The payment record of the borrowers has been outstanding. For example, in 1956, Farmers Home collected in principal and interest $292 million. Although some of the loans are made for periods up to 40 years, thousands of farmers have paid out well ahead of schedule.

In its 20-year history, Farmers Home has loaned about $390 million to some 275,000 Negro farm families. About 10,000 of these received loans to buy farms and build homes.

Indiana pastor asks support for Koinonia farm project

GARY, Ind. — Recent bombings at Koinonia farm, an interracial cooperative enterprise near Americus, Ga., has caused a local pastor to ask the public to give financial support to the project.

The Rev. Merrel D. Booker, pastor of St. Timothys Community Church here, asks that all interested persons send a contribution to Dr. Clarence Jordan, Koinonia Farm, Americus, Ga.

He explained that he is making the plea because of efforts by segregationists to destroy the farm by bombings, gunfire and economic pressures.

* * *

DEVOTING HIS entire sermon to the history of the farm at a recent Sunday service, the Rev. Mr. Booker told his congregation how the farm was started by Dr. Jordan 14 years ago.

He described how the 12 to 15 families (about 70 individuals) living on the farm built a business from scratch to earn $7,000 yearly by selling their produce at a roadside stand.

And by launching a mail order business, the group grossed $7,000 during the month of January.

Damages to the property by vandals, however, are taking its toll on the profits.

* * *

TROUBLE FIRST began last year when Dr. Jordan recommended that a colored student be admitted to (his alma mater) the University of Georgia.

Dr. Jordan was then invited by the local Baptist Church to resign from the congregation; some one shot up the roadside stand in June; the farm was dynamited on July 23; shotgun fire blasted the farm on Nov. 27; and another explosion was set off on Jan. 11.

* * *

TO TOP THIS, nothing has been done, the Rev. Mr. Booker said, to find the persons responsible for the mounting damages. He added that Shivers Lumber Co. has refused to sell the farm any more lumber.

Dr. Jordan told me by phone, the local pastor said, "that he would accept a contribution from our church and other sources."

The pastor said his church has since made a contribution and he has requested that others do likewise.

GUARD FIRED ON AT BIRACIAL GEORGIA FARM

Americus, Ga., March 5 (AP) —A watchman at the controversial Koinonia Farms reported that an unidentified man in an automobile opened fire on him early today.

Two bullets struck a portable electric light John Eustice, the watchman, was carrying, spraying lead fragments on his hand.

Koinonia is a 1,100 acre farm operated on a biracial, communal basis. It was established 15 years ago as an interdenominational religious project. Only recently spokesmen of the Ku Klux Klan unsuccessfully undertook to engineer the sale of the property to someone else. A roadside market operated by the farm twice has been blasted with dynamite, a tenant house burned, and shots fired into buildings.

Bi-Racial Farm In Georgia Is Fired On Again

AMERICUS, Ga., Mar. 23 (AP)—Koinonia Farm, controversial biracial community near here, was fired on again last night, its president, Norman Long, reported today. He said one bullet struck the home of the Rev. Clarence Jordan, forty-five, co-founder of the project.

The room struck was the bedroom of Mr. Jordan's daughter, Eleanor, twenty-one, a student at the University of Georgia, who was at home on spring vacation and in the room at the time. She was not injured.

Koinonia Farm was set up in 1942 as a non-profit, non-denominational corporation. Its founders describe it as a religious community "practicing Christian brotherhood." It has been the target of bombs, bullets, cross burnings and an economic boycott. So far there have been no arrests in connection with the disturbances.

Racial Camp Files Taken In Sumter

AMERICUS, March 28 (AP)—Over protest the records of biracial Koinonia Farm, Inc. were taken Wednesday by the Sumter County Grand Jury, a spokesman for the farm said.

Clarence Jordan, a member of the controversial communal group near here, said Sol. Gen. Charles Burgamy of the Southwestern Judicial Circuit took the records from him when he appeared before the grand jury as requested.

Burgamy would make no comment on the incident.

Jordan said the records taken over his protest inclded financial records of the farm, its mailing list and correspondence. He said the documents were locked in the sheriff's office after being taken from him.

The grand jury has instructed Jordan to bring the records, but Jordan said he felt the jury had no legal grounds to take the papers after he refused to turn them over.

Jordan said that after he refused, Burgamy said only that the grand jury was preparing a misdemeanor charge against one of the farm's members. Burgamy would give no other legal grounds i demanding the records, oJrdan said.

MORE VIOLENCE REPORTED

Bi-Racial Camp's Files Taken by Sumter Jury

AMERICUS, March 28 (AP)—The Koinonia biracial farm reported more gunfire Thursday and gave many of its private records to an investigating Sumter County Grand Jury.

The grand jury, investigating what it called a misdemeanor case against a member of the controversial farm which recognizes no race barriers, has questioned several members of the organization all this week.

The questioning continued Thursday but court officials would not discuss the case. Clarence Jordan, a co-founder and secretary-treasurer of the group, was to take the stand again.

The grand jury seized the farm's financial records, news letters, list of donors and the amount of money contributed. The records were taken from Jordan and locked in the sheriff's office valut.

The jury is investigating a case involving Conrad Browne, a member of the farm community.

The state of Georgia has been wanting for some time to have a look at Koinonia records but apparently was not involved in taking of the records or in the Browne case.

The latest in a long series of violent incidents at the farm was reported Thursday by John Gabor, 35, a farm watchman. He said he was shot at twice about 3 a.m. while he was driving along a highway near the farm.

Biracial Farm To Keep Going With God's Aid

WASHINGTON, April 5 (AP)—A Georgia minister said today he hopes to keep a white-and-negro farm going in his home state with the help of God and in spite of bombings, machine - gunnings, cross-burnings and an economic boycott.

The Rev. Clarence Jordan told a news conference, however, he wishes President Eisenhower would use his "moral influence" to halt "a reign of terror" that has plagued the religious-inspired community for the past year or so.

Jordan, a Georgia-born white man, spoke and met with reporters at a session of the National Civil Liberties Clearing House, made up of representatives from educational, labor, religious and other organizations.

He is a founder of Joinonia, the Greek word for "community," a 1,100-acre experimental farm in Southwest Georgia. Joinonia was founded in 1942 as an interracial, religious cooperative. It introduced modern egg-production methods to the region.

Speaking with flashes of wry humor, the clergyman said Joinonia got along well with its neighbors until last year—after it started an interracial summer camp for children.

Then, as he described it, came legal reprisals, dynamitings, shotgun blasts, and other attacks including one that sent tracer bullets drilling into a house.

Jordan said the community can't get insurance any more, has lost much of the market for its produce, is shunned in business matters by the people of the surrounding countryside. Once, Jordan said, a Ku Klux Klan delegation offered to buy the farm if the community would move somewhere else.

He said Joinonia has had to stop its egg production, and that puzzles him:

"These were white eggs, laid by white hens. Maybe it was because the yolks were colored."

Jordan asked President Eisenhower in a letter last January to intervene, saying the community "is facing annihilation."

He said today he got a reply from Atty. Gen. Brownell more than a month later, to the effect that the offenses against the farm appeared to be matters for state authorities and not the federal government to handle.

Jordan said he was inclined to leave it at that instead of making further representations to the President.

"I feel that he is aware of situation — his memory short," Jordan said.

"We didn't have anything in mind like federal troops," he said.

"We are committed to a policy of nonviolence. We could not use guns on anyone. There is a religious principle involved."

Jordan said the community has established another farm near Nashanic Station, N. J., though it has no present plan to abandon the Georgia experiment.

Bi-Racial Farm Appears To Be A Red Front, Americus Jury Says

Constitution Sat. 4-6-57 Atlanta, Ga.

AMERICUS, April 5 (AP) — A Sumter County grand jury reported today after a month-long investigation that it was "strongly indicated" the bi-racial Koinonia Farm near here is a Communist-front group.

The jury said also its investigation indicated that recent acts of violence at the farm were inspired and performed by members of the farm community.

The farm has been involved in a running feud with local authorities because of its policy of admitting Negroes on a non-segregated basis.

There have been recurring rumors of charges that the farm's policy was of the Communist type, but this was the first time the accusation was spelled out.

Norman Long, president of the farm, has denied repeatedly the farm has anything to do with communism. But he said Communists may have visited the place inasmuch as no investigation is made of callers.

The grand jury also contended that while the farm was operating under a religious charter from the state as a nonprofit organization, "it has received profits."

The jury cited that the farm received $27,000 in gifts from throughout the nation since last July 1. The farm also markets produce and other farm products on a direct and a mail-order basis.

In recent months there have been several shootings and other incidents of violence at the farm, but there have been no injuries.

Long declined to comment on the grand jury charges until he sees a full copy of the 27-page report. He did, however, repeat earlier denials that the farm is Communist and that its members were responsible for the violence there. He said it is true the farm has received "considerable amount" of donations since the violence started but "this doesn't alter our nonprofit status."

"I imagine the First Bapist Church of Atlanta receives many gifts, too," he said, "but this certainly doesn't make it a profit-making organization."

Koinonia Pastor Demands U.S. Probe, Action by Ike

Constitution Sat. 4-6-57 P. 18 Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON, April 5 (AP)—The Rev. Clarence Jordan of Koinonia Farm, Americus, Ga., insisted today that the federal government investigate violent attacks against his experimental community of whites and Negroes.

He said "some word" from President Eisenhower would help "calm the situation down there."

The government has once refused to investigate on grounds that state and local authorities should handle the situation.

REPEATS DEMANDS

But Jordan renewed his demand for federal action at a news conference after addressing a conference of the National Civil Liberties Clearing House, an organization for exchanging information in the civil liberties field.

In his address Jordan said a group of Georgia terrorists is threatening "annihilation" of his band of ministers and farmers operating the experimental biracial community.

PRESSURE CHARGED

About a year ago, he said, attackers began putting heavy pressure on the farm to close down. The terrorists have shot, dynamited and burned community property and clamped on an economic boycott in what Jordan calls a "reign of terror."

At one point, h esaid, the attackers seemed to be using a machine gun with tracer bullets to shoot up property. No one was injured but there have been close calls.

Meantime, in Americus, Ga., a county grand jury reported after a month-lon ginvestigation that it was "strongly indicated" the Koinonia farm was a Communist front group.

HIT MEMBERS

The jury also said its investiga' tion indicated that recent acts of violence at the farm were inspired and performed by members of the farm community.

Jordan wrote President Eisenhower in January that Koinonia was "facing annihilation unless quick, decisive action is taken by someone in authority." He said he cause the President now is "aware of" the situation.

The White House referred Jordan's letter to Atty. Gen. Herbert Brownell Jr. Brownell wrote Jordan in February there was no evidence federal laws were being violated and sent Jordan's letter to Georgia Gov. Marvin Griffin.

But Jordan said today, "I think there is evidence that federal laws hav been broken."

Aske if he felt this was basis for a federal investigation Jordan replied:

"It would see mto me it would be the basis of an investigation to see whether any federal law has been broken."

Despite the bitter attacks, he said, his group is determined not to give up. Although it recently purchased a farm near Ne hanic Station, N. J., he said, it is determined to continue operating at Koinonia and will operate the New Jersey farm as an adjunct.

Koinonia director says he hopes to keep farm in operation, despite troubles. Story on Page 18.

'NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO CONVICT'

Georgia Biracial Farm Link With Known Reds Charged

Advertiser Montgomery, Ala. Sat. 4-6-57

AMERICUS, Ga., April 5 (AP)—A Sumter County grand jury charged today that controversial, biracial Koinonia farm has "close friends among known Communists and has entertained known Communists."

In a 20-page presentment to Superior Court Judge Cleveland Rees, the jury reported that a seven-day inquiry had uncovered evidence that the 1,100-acre establishment, established 15 years ago as a religious colony, may be a front for the Communist party.

The presentment also said that recent bombings, shootings and burning at the farm near here may have been perpetrated from the inside to create sympathy and attract financial aid.

No indictment was returned against any official or resident of the farm. Nor was any prosecution directly proposed.

The jury did say it had expert advice that its evidence is insufficient "to convict of communism in a court of law." it added that it was willing to leave to the "good judgment and understanding of the people who read these presentments the question of whether there exists extremely close kinship between the Communist party and Koinonia farm."

The president of Koinonia, Norman Long, declined immediate comment. He said he had not had a chance to read the presentments and felt that he should be thoroughly familiar with them before saying anything.

The presentments sought to link the farm or its leadership with two organizations which the jury said have come under official scrutiny. One was the Southern Conference Educational Fund Inc. of Louisiana, a religious organization which the jurors said has been recommended for investigation by the U. S. attorney general. The other was the Highlander Folk School of Monteagle, Tenn., whose head the jury identified as Miles Horton and said he has long been "known to be a member of the Communist party."

1b 1957

GEORGIA

Experiments and credit aids put farm family on its feet

WASHINGTON

A knack for experimenting and a loan from the government helped Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Amerson of Barstow, Ga., get on their feet.

The Amersons, have made their way up from years of sharecropping to a 186-acre farm of their own with a modern home, two tractors, a dozen milk cows, and over 100 hogs.

They credit their success mostly to enterprise, ingenuity, and an assist from the Farmers Home Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

When the government came to their aid in 1940 with a small loan to buy seed, feed, fertilizer — and a few other things to keep them going — the Amersons had been trying to get established in farming for 10 years.

* * *

ALL THEY had in 1940 was a $15 mule and two scrub cows, reports Josephus Johnson, county Farmers Home supervisor at-large of Georgia.

* * *

BUT THEY kept their cotton clean, their home orderly, and their few pieces of equipment under a shed, Mr. Johnson points out.

And when their application came up for $3,875 to buy a farm of their own, it was approved by the Farmers Home which also advised them to stop counting on just cotton.

They did. And they are still cutting down. This year they cut their cotton acreage from six to six, and placed the extra acres in the soil bank. Hogs and diary cows are their mainstay now.

* * *

BUT MAKING the shift didn't come easy.

The hogs ate up most of the profit at first, and the processing plant rejected more of their milk than it ever accepted.

"You see," says Mr. Amerson, "we lived so far from the plant that our milk was often sour by the time the pickup man got it there."

One day when the pickup man returned 20 gallons of their sour milk, Mr. Amerson decided not to feed it to the hogs this time, but to churn it instead and try to peddle the buttermilk door-to-door in town.

It went quickly and customers asked him to bring them more when he came to town again.

* * *

WITHIN A FEW weeks he had built up a trade for 30 gallons of buttermilk a week. But their hand churn could handle only a few gallons at a time. They needed one which could take 15 or 20 gallons.

However, none could be found in Savannah, Augusta, Atlanta or in the mail order catalogue.

Mr. Amerson got the idea that a washing machine might do the job. He bought a new one, sterilized it thoroughly, poured in clabber, and turned it on. It would churn all right, but it was slow.

The agitator was too small, so he extended the fins with pieces of plywood, and out came golden buttermilk in about half the previous time.

Now every week the Amersons sell from 70 to 100 gallons of buttermilk and 15 or 20 pounds of butter to regular customers in and around Bartow. Last year their dairy products brought them $2,666.61, or about $50 a week.

* * *

THEIR NEXT step is to build a Grade A barn and begin selling whole milk. This would nearly double their dairy income.

Mr. Amerson's knack for experimenting has almost solved the hog feed problem. He has already upped his corn yield from 15 to 30 bushels per acre through soil analysis and fertilizer studies. Now he is conducting experiments with feeds and breeds.

His seven sows are various breeds — Duroc, Landrace, and Poland China.

Each sow has her own farrowing house and pasture. He tries out different grasses and different brands of concentrates, as well as some feed mixtures of his own to see on which one the animals fare best.

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AS A RESULT of these experiments, the Amersons netted more last year out of the $3,400 worth of hogs they sold.

"Observing Mr. Amerson's feeding experiments, or his improvised churn, one would think he held at least a master's degree," comments Mr. Johnson. "But the fact is he has attended school less than three months in his whole life."

However, the nine Amerson children are getting the educational advantages he missed. Most of them have finished high school, and one has already finished college.

$50 WORTH OF BUTTERMILK — Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Anderson of Bartow, Ga., having finished the churning of 80 gallons of buttermilk in new washing he bought and converted into a 20-gallon churn, check number of bottles before loading into truck for delivery to customers. Milk and butter bring about $50 a week.

Experiments and credit aids put farm family on its feet

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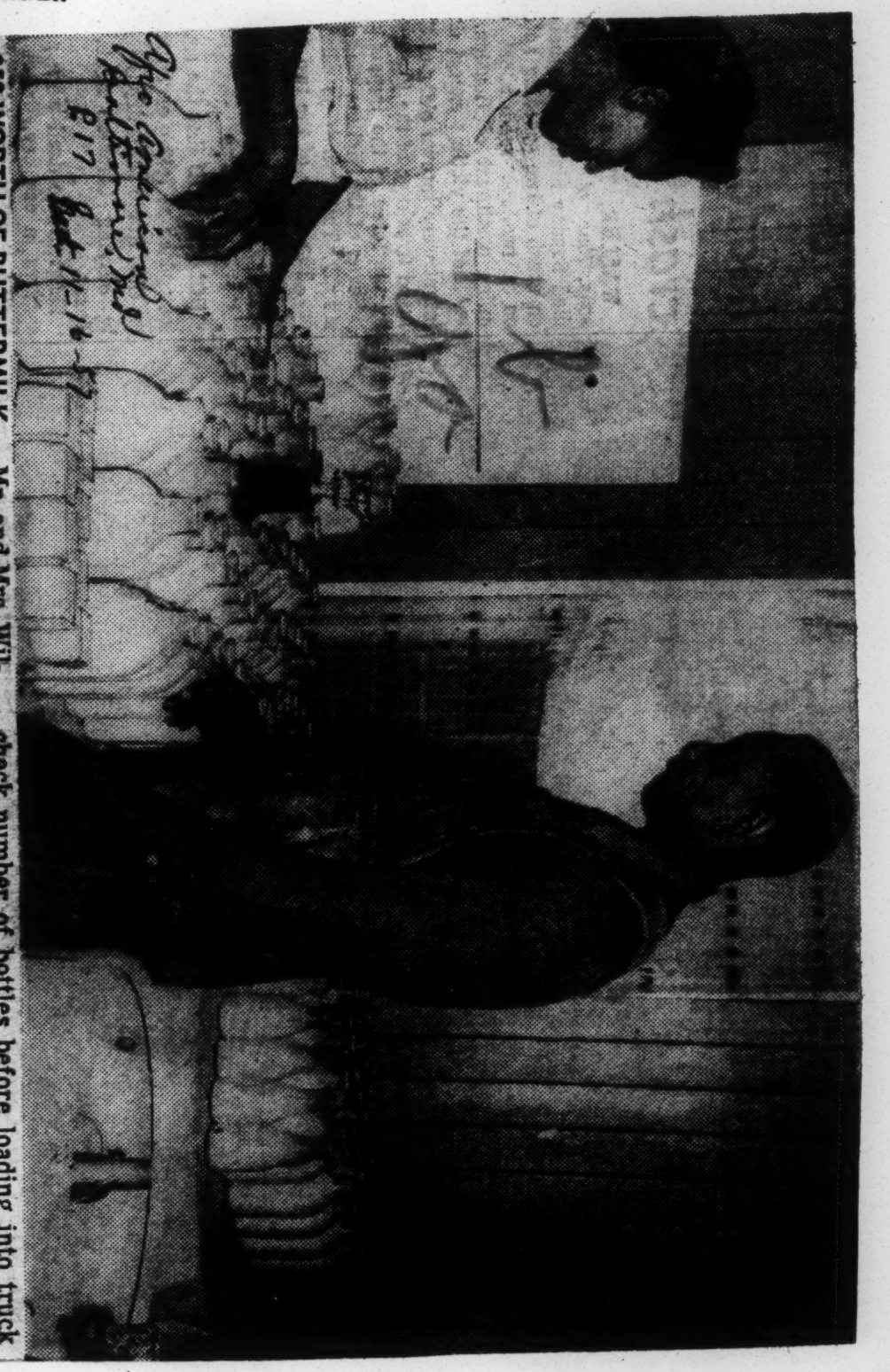

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GEORGIA

4-H Ham and Egg Shows Slated for 20 Ga. Counties

Constitution Sat 2-23-57
Atlanta Ga. P.15

Constitution State News Service

SAVANNAH, Feb. 22—Ham and egg shows, the events where Negro farmers and 4-H Club members exhibit the pork and poultry products they have produced, will be held in 20 counties this month and next.

K. C. Childers, special Negro county agent who supervises the ham and egg program, said the shows are a medium used by Negro Extension workers to reach farm and nonfarm families with the latest information on swine and poultry production.

The 1957 schedule is as follows: Feb. 26, Brooks and Lowndes counties; March 5, Troup and Meriwether; March 6, Harris; March 7, Fort Valley; March 20, Laurens and Dodge; March 21, Burke, Emanuel and Randolph; March 26, Thomas, Decatur and Grady; March 27, Baldwin, Washington and Hancock, and March 28, Greene, Wilkes and Clarke.

Childers said the production of pork, pork products, poultry and eggs for home use and as a supplementary cash income is a major recommendation of the Extension Service in the over-all county agricultural programs with Negro farm families.

"Improved breeds, breeding and management are emphasized through the ham and egg program," the special county agent continued. "Livestock feed production, including permanent protures and temporary grazing, also are given special attention."

The ham and egg shows were started at Fort Valley in 1916 by O. S. O'Neal, retired Negro county agent.

Last year 1,282 adults and 568 Four-H members exhibited a total of 1,632 hams, 1,715 dozen eggs, and 738 jars of canned by-products in the events. Childers said approximately 13,680 people saw the educational exhibits in 1956.

Ft. Valley Ham, Egg Winners

Constitution
Fri. 3-8-57
Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

FT. VALLEY, March 7—Hillard Plant of Macon County was named grand champion of the 41st Ham and Egg Show here Thursday.

Other winners in the show—the original Ham and Egg Contest in Georgia—were listed as: P.12

Hams, adults: Hillard Plant, 1st; W. T. Flowers, Peach County, reserve champion, 2nd; Hillard Plant, 3rd and 4th; Ezezial Harvey, 5th; Plant, 6th; Ciccero Horton, 7th; Grady Howell, 8th; W. T. Flowers, 9th; Major Amico, 10th.

4-H Hams: Russell Sanders Jr. of Peach County, 1st; Cornelius Horton Jr., Peach, 2nd; Alexander Fluellen, 3rd; Augustus Sanders, 4th; Tom Beard Jr., 5th; Cornelius Horton, 6th; Charles Lindsey, 7th; Russell Sanders, 8th; Tom Beard Jr., 9th.

Eggs: Mrs. Lula Mathis, Macon County, 1st; Gloria Lindsey, 4-H member of Peach County, 2nd; Mrs. Lula Mathis, 3rd; Mrs. Iola James, 4th; Mrs. Hannah Johnson, 5th; Mrs. Mattie Fluellen, 6th; Mrs. Mattie Fluellen, 7th and 8th; Mrs. Mary Ingram, 9th; Willie Johnson, 10th.

4-H Eggs: Gloria Lindsey, 1st; Robert Church Jr., 2nd; James Latimore, 3rd; Walter Latimore, 4th; Robert Brown, 5th; Isaac Miller, 6th; Cornelius Horton Jr., 7th; Robert Brown, 8th; Robert Church Jr., 9th; Isaac Miller, 10th.

Shoulders: Hillier Plant, 1st; Major Amico, 2nd; Buddy Johnson, 3rd.

Buddy Johnson of Macon County won 1st, 2nd and 3rd plaes in the bacon contest.

One hundred thirty-five hams, 16 dozen eggs, 35 shoulders and 12 slabs of bacon were entered in the show, officials said.

Ft. Valley's Ham, Egg Show Is 41st

Constitution P.20
Wed. 3-6-57
Atlanta Ga.

Constitution State News Service

FORT VALLEY, March 5—The 41st annual Ham and Egg Show will be held at Fort Valley State College Thursday and Friday.

The show originated in 1916 when County Agent O. S. O'Neal, now retired, saw the need for bringing farmers together to learn better ways of curing meat and improving egg production.

The early shows were actual institutes on meat production, curing, trimming and the control of diseases in swine and poultry. These early shows also stressed the importance of living at home, producing adequate food for a year-round balanced diet, home ownership and beautification, family health and other essentials that would make rural living attractive and profitable.

Each ham and egg show is a tribute to Otis S. O'Neal. Since O'Neal's retirement in 1951, the show has continued under the direction of R. T. Church, Negro county agent for Peach County.

The farmers of Peach County, 4-H Club members, Fort Valley State College and business men in Fort Valley and Macon cooperate in sponsoring the show each year.

Exhibits for the 1957 show will be judged by William Hays and R. O. Williams, livestock specialists; K. C. Childers, special Negro county agent, and Curtis Collier, Extension marketing specialist. Auctioneer for the sale of hams will be F. R. Spencer, Meriwether County Negro agent.

Negro Farmers Tour Agriculture Demonstrations

Constitution
Atlanta Ga.

Constitution State News Service

TIFTON, July 11—At the recent Negro annual countywide farm tour in Tift County result demonstrations were observed in Brookfield, Brighton, Chula and Ty Ty communities.

John H. Morgan, Negro county agent, and E. S. Mills, vocational agriculture teacher at the Tifton industrial school, were in charge of the tour. The men attending saw tobacco, cotton, corn, peanuts, poultry hog, dairy cattle and home improvement demonstrations.

D. W. Wright, of the Ty Ty community, was named the best all-round farmer by the evaluating committee. J. D. Collins, president of the Ty Ty Farm Bureau Chapter, praised the farmers for the improvements they have made over previous years.

Following the tour a fish fry, sponsored by merchants of the community and prepared by the farmers' wives, was held at the Tift county industrial school.

3-County Ham, Egg Show Nears

Constitution
Mon. 3-25-57
Atlanta, Ga.

Constitution State News Service

ATHENS, March 24 — Negro farmers from Clarke, Oconee and Madison counties will present their tenth annual Ham and Egg Show demonstrational meeting in Athens, March 27-29, announces L. C. Trawick, Negro county agent. P.8

Displays of choice hams, fresh yard eggs, canned pork and poultry products will be featured and they will be judged by W. J. Hayes, livestock specialist for the Agricultural Extension Service.

The show will climax a year's work in the program of "Better Farming Practices and Better Family Living" for Negro farm families.

Trawick said during the ten years the ham and egg show program has been carried on in the county, Negro farm families have become more efficient in pork and poultry production.

He added that both farmers 4-H Club members have learned how to feed and manage swine and chickens more profitably to select improved breeds.

This is one of 25 shows being held through the state this year.

Hold Annual Ham-Egg Show In Georgia

Recorder P.3

SPARTA, Ga. — A large crowd attended the Ham and Egg show held here recently. 3-26-57

The 1957 winners were: James Webb, first and second prizes in the 4-H Club Division, and Ernest Mapp, third. In the Adults Division, Henry Brown won first prize and the Grand Championship. W. I. Warren, won second prize and the Reserve Championship. Jessie Chappell was third place winner.

In the Egg show the D. S. Ingraham Club won first prize; Old Beulah Club, second prize and Hunt's Chapel Club, third prize.

Unusual interest and enthusiasm was shown by the Negro farmers, their wives and children, making this the most successful Ham and Egg Show that has been conducted by Negro County Agent Lester D. Kennedy.

Koinonia Chief Denies Red Links, Rips Jury

Constitution Atlanta, Ga.
Dec. 4-16-57 P. 19

MACON, April 15 (AP)—A leader of interracial Koinonia Farm near Americus Monday night denied grand jury charges of Communist connections and said the jury's action appeared "to be a dangerous abuse of authority by a secular agency of the state."

The Rev. Clarence Jordan told a mixed audience of about 150 persons attending a meeting of the Macon Council on Human Relations that all charges contained in a 20-page presentment returned by a Sumter County grand jury April 5 were "untrue."

Jordan read a 19-page answer to the grand jury presentment to the council, a biracial group devoted to improving relations between the races.

ARE DISTURBED

"We are disturbed that the grand jury sees fit to sit in judgment on the sincerity of the Christian convictions of members of Koinonia and others," Jordan said. "This seems to us to be a dangerous abuse of authority by a secular agency of the state."

The grand jury, in its presentment, charged that Koinonia "has close friends among known Communists and has entertained known Communists."

Jordan, cofounder of the farm denied this. Norman Long, president of the 1,100-acre establishment, issued a similar denial April 7.

The farm's philosophy, Jordan said, "is in direct conflict with the Communist philosophy of violence. The jury affirms this by stating that members of Koinonia have suffered imprisonment rather than take up arms against fellow men."

VIOLENCE CHARGED

The grand jury also charged that some of the violence which has plagued the farm the past few months might have been perpetrated from the inside to create sympathy and attract financial aid.

Jordan said the grand jury considered only the incidents of violence "about which it could raise some questions reflecting upon Koinonia" and failed to report on other acts "in which it was clear Koinonia had no part."

A grand jury charge that roadside stand sales at the farm jumped to $7,000 a month gross after an explosion also was denied by Jordan.

SALES AVERAGE

He said that "during the nine months of operation since the violence began gross sales have averaged $1,809.62 a month."

The grand jury did not return an indictment against any official or resident of the farm. Nor was any prosecution directly proposed.

The farm was established near Americus 15 years ago as a religious colony. At present about 45 white and 15 Negro men, women and children work and live at Koinonia.

Negro Farm Honors Set In Ft. Valley

Constitution Atlanta Ga.
Dec. 4-30-57 P. 21

Constitution State News Service

FORT VALLEY, April 29 — Dr. C. V. Troup has been named principal speaker for the Negro farm family achievement day program here May 2.

Dr. Troup, president of Ft. Valley State College, will address about 35 Negro families who have done exceptional work in carrying out farm and home plans in cooperation with the Farmers Home Administration. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. Thursday at the college.

R. L. Vansant, state director of the FHA, said the families will be awarded certificates in recognition of their achievements.

In addition to the speech by Dr. Troup, the program will feature a panel discussion led by Josephus Johnson, county supervisor at large, FHA; music by the Fort Valley State College choir directed by W. S. Mathis, head of the music department, and a tour of the college farm led by Dr. C. L. Ellison, director of agriculture.

Dr. Ellison also will preside at the meeting. Following the devotion by the Rev. W. M. Smith, pastor of the Trinity Baptist Church, the farmers, their wives and children will be welcomed to the campus by Dr. W. W. E. Blanchet, dean of the college, and Miss Motta Sims, acting head of the division of home economics.

After lunch in the college dining hall, there will be an open house in the home economics building, with Miss Sims as hostess.

A discussion in the auditorium of the agricultural building, and a summary of the meeting by L. J. Washington of the real estate division, national office of FHA, will conclude the program.

Bishop Turner

Georgia Merit Farmer

By SUSAN MYRICK
Progressive Farmer

THE 1957 Georgia Merit Farmer award was made to Bishop Turner, 57-year-old Negro farmer of Early County, at Fort Valley State College, early in August. P. 101

Turner was selected for the coveted honor in keen competition among the state's top Negro farmers. Judges from extension, soil conservation, education and farm financing services who traveled many miles to visit farms of nominated farmers, unanimously chose Turner. P. 21 Sept. 1957

Turner, who began as a renter in 1930, now values his 900-acre farm at $132,000, and his white, asbestos-shingled, eight-room house and furnishings at $12,000. His receipts for last year's crops totaled $20,000, to bring him a net of $7,869.13. Chief source of cash income was the 66-acre peanut allotment, which brought a gross of $5,000. Cotton, wheat, corn, forest products from his 513 acres of woodland, and returns from beef cattle and hogs made up the farm income.

"A man has to work his land," Turner said. "Many days I plow till 11 o'clock at night."

No advance notice is given candidates when the judges make their visits; Turner was located, after about half an hour, on a tractor, turning one of his fields, while his wife was hoeing peanuts. The judges pronounced the house, some 12 miles from Blakely, "clean as a pin."

Bishop Turner

Married 20 years, the Turners have two daughters and a son. The family home is modern; it has a well equipped electric kitchen and complete water and plumbing facilities. The grounds are landscaped, and the Turners keep a dairy cow and raise broilers and laying hens for the family food plan.

Turner has some 250 acres of improved permanent pasture, 25 acres in grain sorghum, 200 acres in corn, for his livestock. With 75 head of grade Hereford brood cows, he owns 2 registered Hereford bulls. He keeps 13 Duroc brood sows, buys feeders for cleaning up fields, has some 75 feeders on hand.

Previous winners of the Georgia Merit Farmer award are Fred Hill Mathis of Macon County (1955), and joint winners John W. Hunter of Early County and Eddie Wilson of Bulloch (1956).

Runners-up in this year's contest were John Bradley, Mitchell County; Mrs. Lula Thomas, Grady County; and Mrs. Sallie Parham, Clay County. This is the first time women have been included in the finalists.

A long-time cooperator with the Flint River Soil Conservation District, Turner has well maintained terraces, and follows sound land-building practices. He is president of his Farm Bureau chapter, and a steward in the Methodist Church.

Editor's Note. — The award was presented by Miss Myrick, farm editor of the *Macon Telegraph and News*, which sponsors the Merit Farmer Program.

Early County Man Gets Merit Farmer Award

Atlanta Ga. Daily World Dec. 2-11-57

and his wife."

Another speaker at the Fort Valley meeting was the Rev. L. H. Pitts, executive secretary of the Georgia Teachers and Education Association, who urged Negroes "not to leave thie land that we have worked, but on the other hand, stay and find our place among the farmers of this great nation."

The Merit Farmer Award is offered each year by the Telegraph and News newspoper and Fort Valley State College.

FT. VALLEY, Ga. — "The most outstanding Negro farmer in the entire state" was the finding title bestowed on Bishop Turner, of Early County, who received the Merit Farmer Award at Fort Valley State College Thursday.

The award was presented by Miss Susan Myrick, farm editor of the Macon Telegraph and News in behalf of Macon Newspaper at the Sixth Annual Farm and Home Short Course and Conference held at the college.

"We of the Macon newspapers are proud to have a small hand in seeking out and honoring the most outstanding Negro farmer in the entire state," Miss Myrick said, "we are very proud of Bishop Turner

Negro FB Meeting Today in Fort Valley

Constitution State News Service

FORT VALLEY, Oct. 8—Camp John Hope near Fort Valley will be the site of the annual Negro Farm Bureau Meeting Wednesday, H. L. Wingate, Georgia Farm Bureau president, announced.

Several hundred Negro Farm Bureau chapter leaders and members are expected to participate in the annual event. The convention will open at 10 a.m. in the Alva Tabor Memorial Building.

Woodrow Luttrell, Southern Region field representative, American Farm Bureau Federation, and H. L. Wingate will appear on the convention program.

Included on the convention program will be presentation of cash awards to Negro Farm Bureau Chapters having instigated and given the greatest support to local Negro 4-H Clubs and NFA Chapters.

Awards in each of the divisions will be $30 for first place, $25 for second place, $20 for third place, $15 for fourth place and $10 for fifth place. The awards are made available by the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation and Cotton Manufacturers Assn. of Georgia.

Door prizes will be presented during the program and luncheon will be served on the John Hope Camp grounds. Progress of Negro Farm Bureau Chapter membership will be indicated on an exhibit in the Alva Tabor Memorial building.

Others scheduled for the convention program are Roscoe Dunlap, Negro GFBF field representative, Savannah; J. S. Clark, Elbert County; the Rev. L. B. Miller, Lowndes County; Sim Albritton, Terrell County; Josiah Phelps, NFA executive secretary, and director Camp John Hope; Dr. C. L. Ellison, director, School of Agriculture, Fort Valley State College.

The Rev. William Rucker, president Elbert County Negro FB Chapter; B. S. Anderson, resident teacher trainer, Fort Valley State College; A. S. Bacon, state leader extension service, Athens, and McKinley Wilson, head itenerant teacher trainer for Negro schools, Fort Valley.

Experiments, Credit Aid Proves Success Formular

Defender Chicago, Ill. Sat. 11-16-57

A knack for experimenting and a loan from the government helped this family to get on its feet.

Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Amerson of Bartow, Ga., have made their way up from years of sharecropping to a 186-acre farm of their own with a modern home, two tractors, a dozen milk cows, and over 100 hogs. They credit their success mostly to enterprise, ingenuity, and an assist from the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

When the Government came to their aid in 1940 with a small loan to buy seed, feed, fertilizer and a few other things to keep them going, the Amersons had been trying to get established in farming for 10 years, and all they had then was a $15 mule and two scrub cows, reports Josephus Johnson, county Farmers Home supervisor at-large of Georgia.

CLEAN COTTON

But they kept their cotton clean, their home orderly, and their few pieces of equipment under a shed, Mr. Johnson points out. And when their application came up for $3,875 to buy a farm of their own, it was approved by the Farmers Home which also advised them to stop counting on just cotton.

They did. And they are still cutting down. This year they cut their cotton acreage from 26 to six, and placed the extra acres in the Soil Bank. Hogs and dairy cows are their mainstay now, but making the shift didn't come easy. The hogs ate up most of the profit at first, and the processing plant rejected more of their milk than it ever accepted.

"You see," says Mr. Amerson, "we lived so far from the plant that our milk was often sour by the time the pickup man got it there."

GETS IDEA

One day when the pickup man returned 20 gallons of their sour milk, Mr. Amerson decided not to feed it to the hogs this time, but to churn it instead and try to peddle the buttermilk door-to-door in town. It went quickly and customers asked him to bring them more when he came to to town again.

Within a few weeks he had built up a trade for 30 gallons of buttermilk a week. But their hand churn could handle only a few gallons at a time. They needed one which could take 15 or 20 gallons. However, none could be found in Savannah, Augusta, Atlanta, or in the mail order catalogue.

Mr. Amerson got the idea that a washing machine might do the job. He bought a new one, sterilized it thoroughly, poured in clabber, and turned it on. It would churn all right, but it was slow, and Mr. Amerson thought he knew why. The agitator was too small. So he extended the fins with pieces of plywood, and tried the machine again. Out came golden buttermilk in about half the previous time.

Now every week the Amersons sell from 70 to 100 gallons of buttermilk and 15 or 20 pounds of butter to regular customers in and around Bartow. Last year their dairy products brought them $2,666.61, or about $50 a week. Their next step is to build a Grade A barn and begin selling whole milk. This would nearly double their dairy income.

FEED PROBLEM

Mr. Amerson's knack for experimenting has not only solved their dairy problem, but it has the hog feed problem near a solution, too. He has already upped his corn yield from 15 to 30 bushels per acre through soil analysis and fertilizer studies in which he was assisted by the Soil Conservation Service and his Farmers Home supervisor. Now he is conducting experiments with feeds and breeds.

His seven sows are various breeds — Duroc, Landrace and Poland China. Each sow has her own farrowing house and her own pasture. He tries out different grasses and different brands of concentrates, as well as some feed mixtures of his own to see on which one the animals fare best.

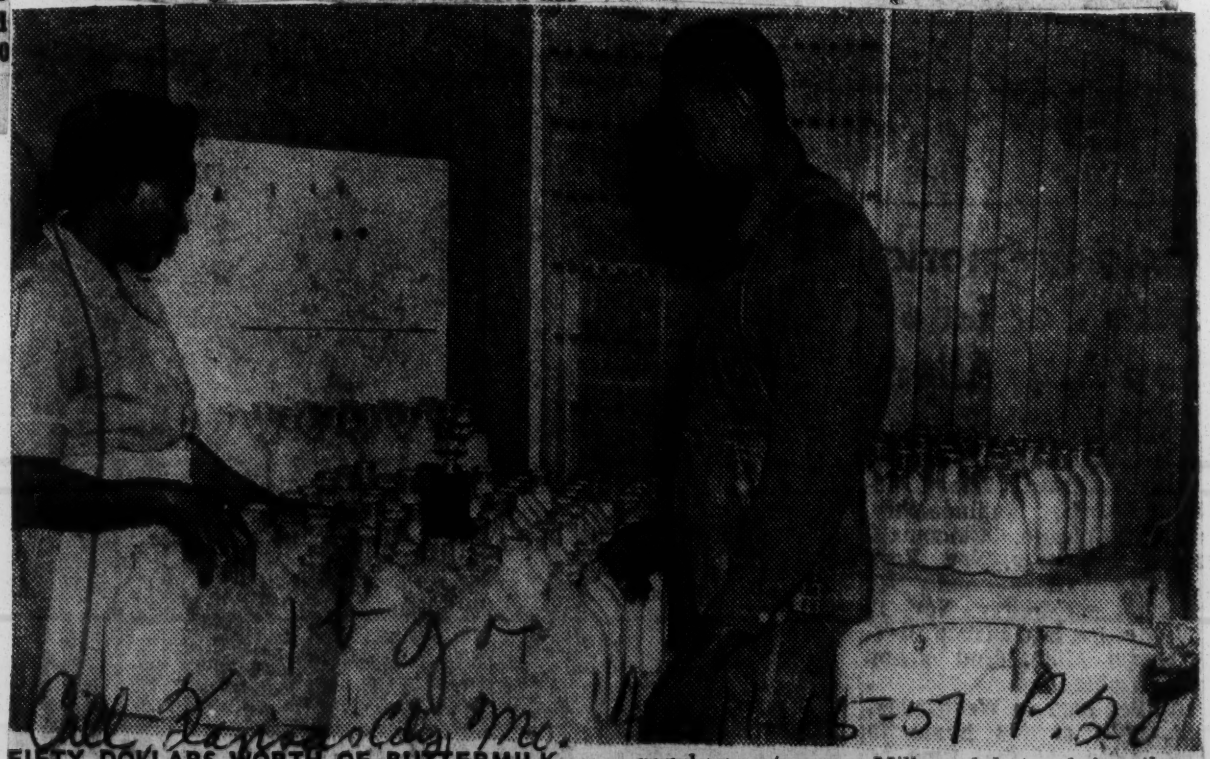
As a result of these experiments, the Amersons netted more last year out of the $3,400 worth of hogs they sold. "But I am going to keep on comparing breeds and feeds," says Mr. Amerson. "Maybe I just have a hankering to experiment."

"Observing Mr. Amerson's feeding experiments, or his improvised churn, one would think he held at least a master's degree," comments Mr. Johnson. "But the fact is he has attended school less than three months in his whole life."

However, the nine Amerson children are getting the educational advantages he missed. Most of them have finished high school and one has already finished college.

BUTTERMILK WORTH $50. Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Amerson of Bartow, Ga., have just finished churning 80 gallons of buttermil k in a new washing machine w h i c h Amerson bought and converted into a 20 - gallon churn. They are checking the number of bottles before loading them into their truck for delivery to regular customers. Milk a n d butter brings them about $50 a wee.

HOG FEEDING EXPERIMENT.—Willie L. Amerson, left, of Bartow, Ga., is discussing a hog feeding experiment with Josephus Johnson, county Farmers Home Administration supervisor at-large of Georgia. Note that Mr. Amerson has each of his sows and her pigs in a separate pasture. He is trying to find out which grasses and which feed concentrates give the best results.—USDA Photo.



FIFTY DOLLARS WORTH OF BUTTERMILK.—Mr. and Mrs. Willie L. Amerson of Bartow, Ga., have just finished churning 80 gallons of buttermilk in a new washing machine which Amerson bought and converted into a 20-gallon churn. They are checking the number of bottles before loading them into their truck for delivery to regular customers. Milk and buter bring them about $50 a week. The trophy shown was awarded to them at a county dairy show. The Farmers Home Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture made the Amersons a $3,875 loan to buy their farm.—USDA Photo.